

**SUPERGIRL GHOST BUSTERS PURPLE RAIN THE KARATE KID**

*...and the usual gang of idiots are all in this issue of...*

No.  
253  
March  
'85

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**CONTRIBUTING ARTISTS AND WRITERS**  
the usual gang of idiots

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COVER ARTIST: RICHARD WILLIAMS

COVER IDEA: AL JAFFEE

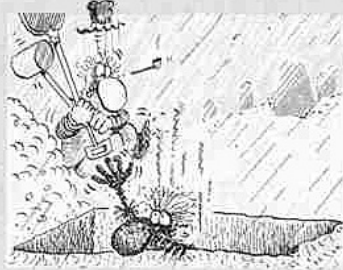
## VITAL FEATURES

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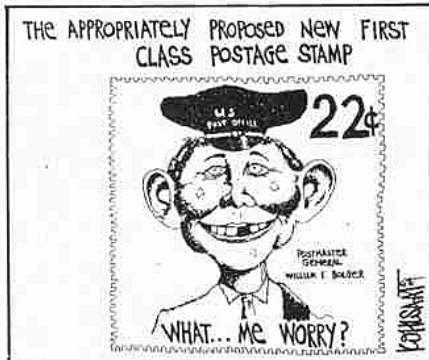
LETTERS HAVE IT DEPT.



### WHAT, ME BORROWED?

Once again, Alfred makes the editorial page.

Scott Junkert  
Hermantown, MN



### DROPOUT MATERIAL

I am a student at Coughlin High School in Wilkes-Barre, PA. I have just learned how to type a real, honest-to-God letter and I am so proud of myself that I had to type one to somebody. I decided to write to you. I figured that if I made a couple of mistakes here and there you wouldn't notice. I hope and pray that you will put this letter in your magazine because I want my typing teacher to think I am more than a "waste" (That's what she calls me now,) and so that everyone at Coughlin can say, "Hey, our school was in MAD Magazine!"

A Crazy Coughlin Student  
Wilkes-Barre, PA

### A WING AND A PRAYER

I didn't know you guys had your own airline, too!

Daniel Ubertini  
Saint Denis, FRANCE

### THE "JACKSONS"

Tell the new guy (James Warhola) that he did a great job on the cover of MAD #251. One question: Is the guy in the crowd flipping someone off or is he giving the #1 sign?

Cody Short Esq.  
Fort Collins, CO

I applaud your salute to the Jacksons on the cover of MAD #251. I've been really steamed at your magazine ever since you printed the letter from Nicholas J. Mifsud back in #248 calling Michael Jackson "a Creep!" I think Mifsud's the creep!

Patrick Michael Bucci  
MADison, WI

Really now! I haven't looked at an issue of MAD in about a year, and the first thing I notice when I buy one (issue #251) is that Michael Jackson's glove is on the wrong hand! He ALWAYS wears it on his right hand! If this type of thing isn't stopped, Alfred's missing tooth may be put on the right side instead of his left!

Jason Sadofsky  
Brewster, NY

**Michael had just come back from the bathroom when the cover was painted.—Ed.**

I loved the cover of MAD #251—"MAD Salutes The Jacksons"—but how come there is nothing about the Jacksons on the inside of the magazine?

Chad Suber  
Albuquerque, NM

**We're saving all our Jackson material for our special "Rock Issue"—MAD #254! (Big Deal!)—Ed.**

**Please Address All Correspondence To:  
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Ain't It Great... that we live in a land of opportunity where a dirty, fat hairy slob can become rich publishing a lousy magazine for 32 years straight!

The Medford MADman  
Medford, NY



Gaines: Fat, Rich and Unashamed

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Hi, there! My name is Gene Sissy...!

And I'm Roger Ebores! We recently appeared in an issue of MAD to review three movies!!

I thought we were just delightful!!

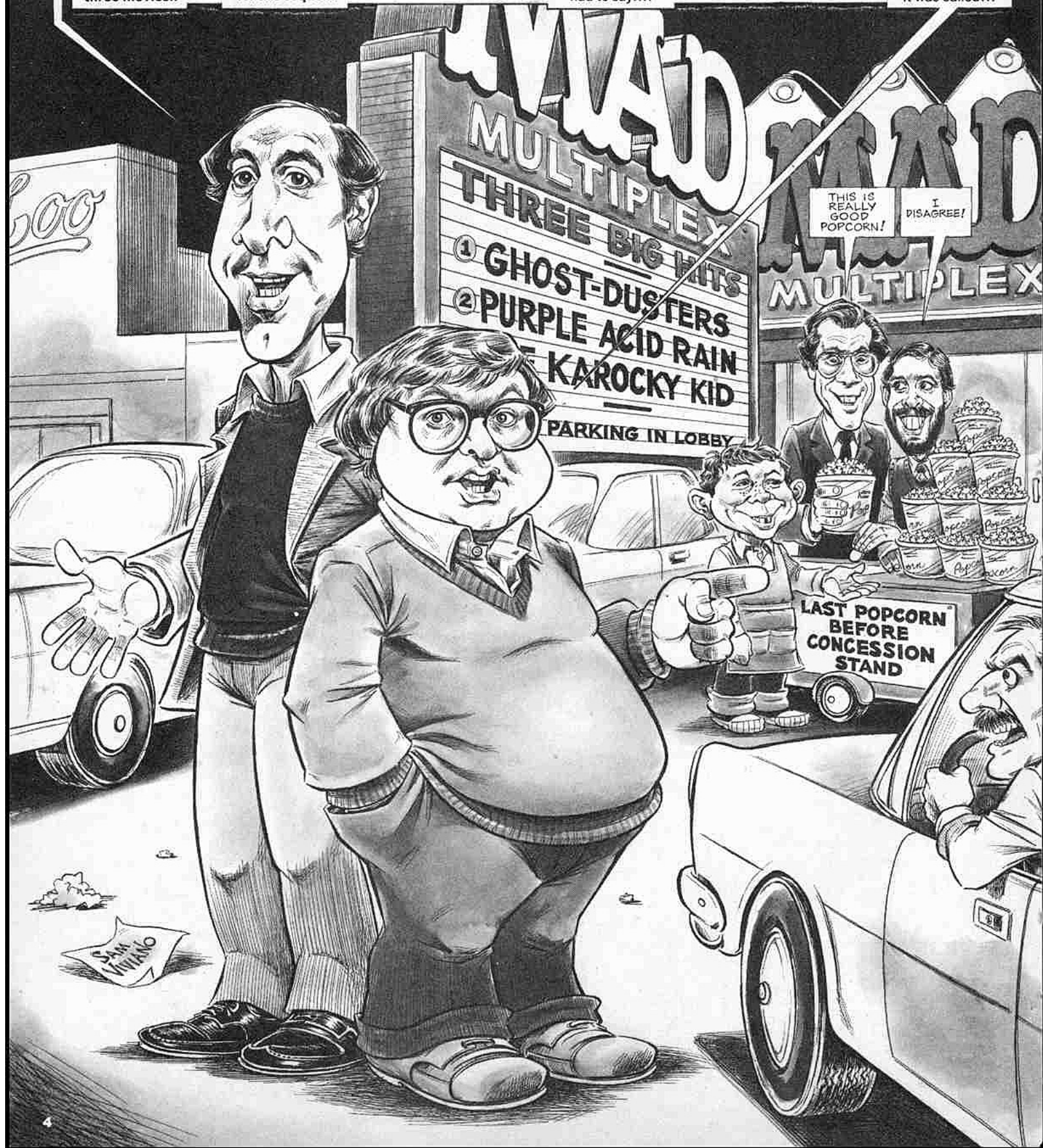
And I disagree!! I thought we were horrible!! I'm surprised they brought us back for this sequel!!

I thought our comments were sharp, perceptive and provocative, and our dialogue was far superior to the actual movie spoofs themselves!

I thought we were witless, tedious, inane and totally lacking in any keen insight... especially in everything YOU had to say...!

I thought you'd be pleased that MAD's artist drew you without filling up the entire page! Anyway, we're back again to review three hot movies of last Summer!

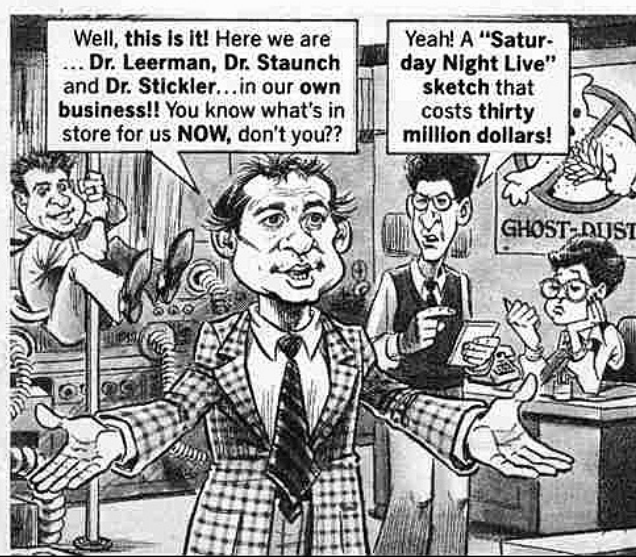
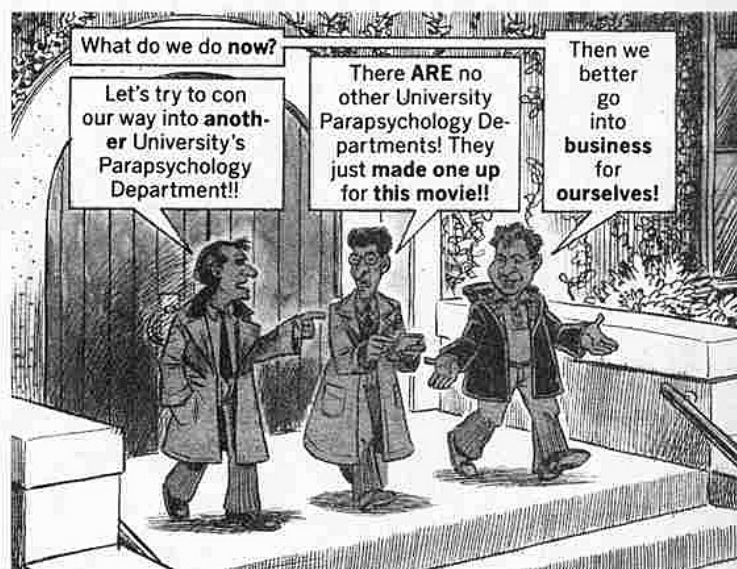
First, let's look at a blockbuster comedy success! This movie was a "satire" of occult films, featuring a trio of investigative scientists! It was called...



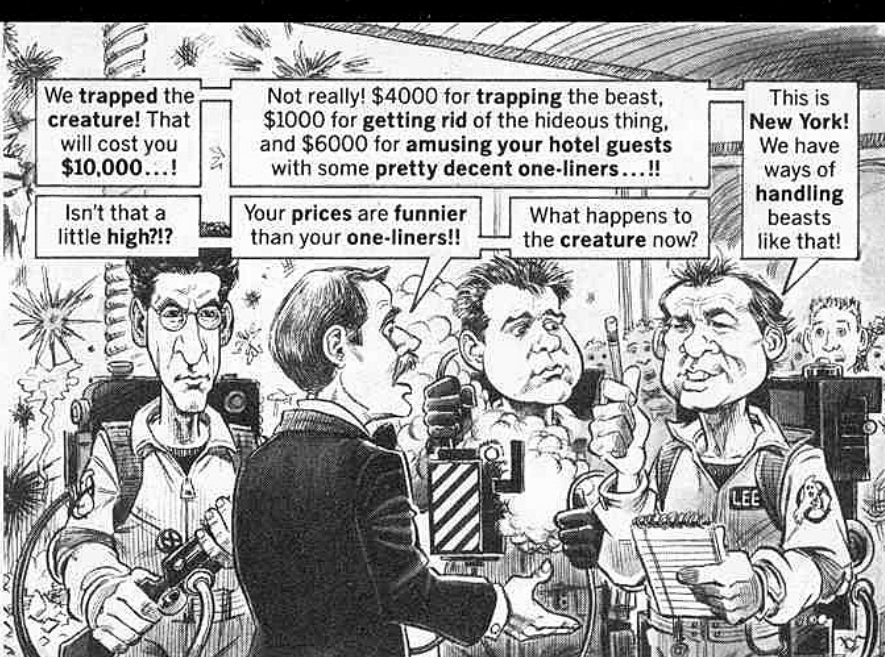
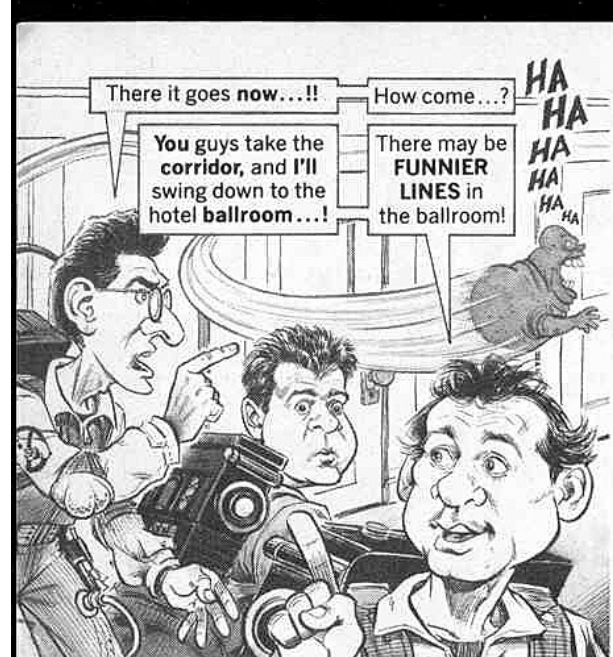


ARTISTS (IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE): SAM VIVIANO, HARRY NORTH AND ANGELO TORRES

# GHOST-DUSTERS









This report says your girl friend and some nerd Accountant are both possessed! And their apartment building has become "Rosemary's Baby Towers"!!!

Incredible! This never happened before!!

Are you kidding...? EVERY movie has a spooked high-rise on Central Park West!!

Yeah...but no chick has ever dumped me for an Accountant! We gotta stop this!!

?

Have no fear!! "Ghost-Dusters" are here...!

They're spooky—but we're kooky!!

Careful of the equipment, Babe! That laser might accidentally undress you!

Take a good look, Honeychild! It's a sight you will probably never see or hear again!!

What's that, Daddy?

Scientists—throwing one-liners!

BOOM!

Thanks for saving us! That was really frightening!

If you think THAT was frightening, let's talk about girls who go through life with the name, "Sigourney"...!!

We both loved this film! It had breezy dialogue and some terrific special effects!!

They were scary, too! In fact, Gene's hair would've stood on end...if he had any!

We gave it a 96! Not only was it funny...but because of the hit song, it was one of the few comedies you could dance to...!

Speaking of "hits", our next film's soundtrack became a HIT ALBUM!! The film starred a garish rock singer named "Prance" in a writhing, sizzling, high-powered funky music melodrama—

If you're through showing off your adjectives, let's take a look at...

HEY—PIPE DOWN!

SSSH!

# Purple Acid Rain

I'm new in town! Who's that magnetic singer up there?

It's The Kidd!

She's great!

It's a HE!! You ARE new in town!!

Who'd think so many cool, funky musicians would play a club in MINNEAPOLIS!!

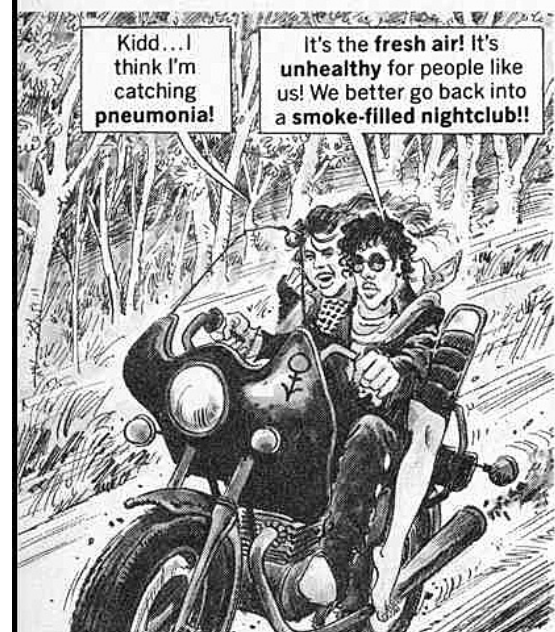
Well, don't tell THEM! They're so stoned, they think they're at the FORUM in Los Angeles!

Hi! I'm The Kidd...an electrifying, half-Black, half-Italian, bisexual-looking rock performer who wears 18th Century lace and makes Boy George look like Walter Mondale! I could be a SUPERSTAR!!

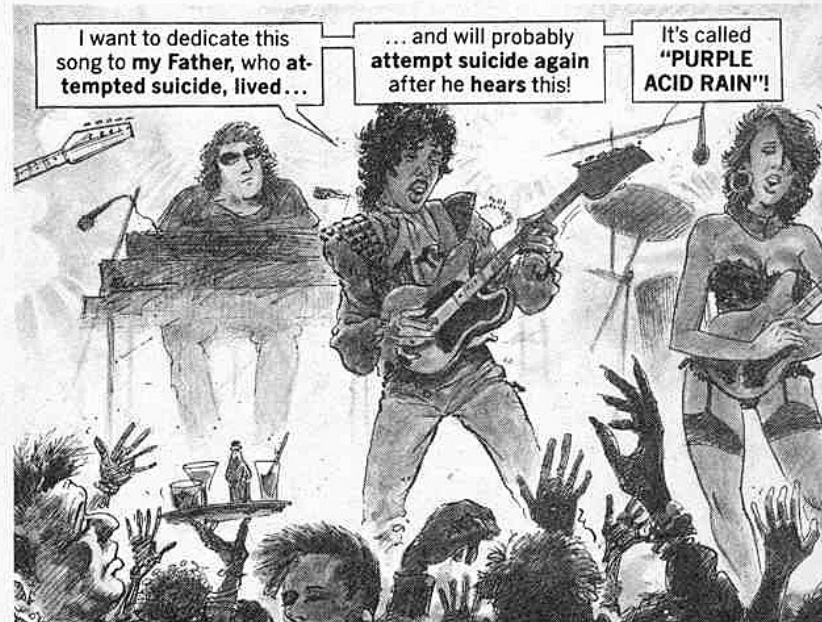
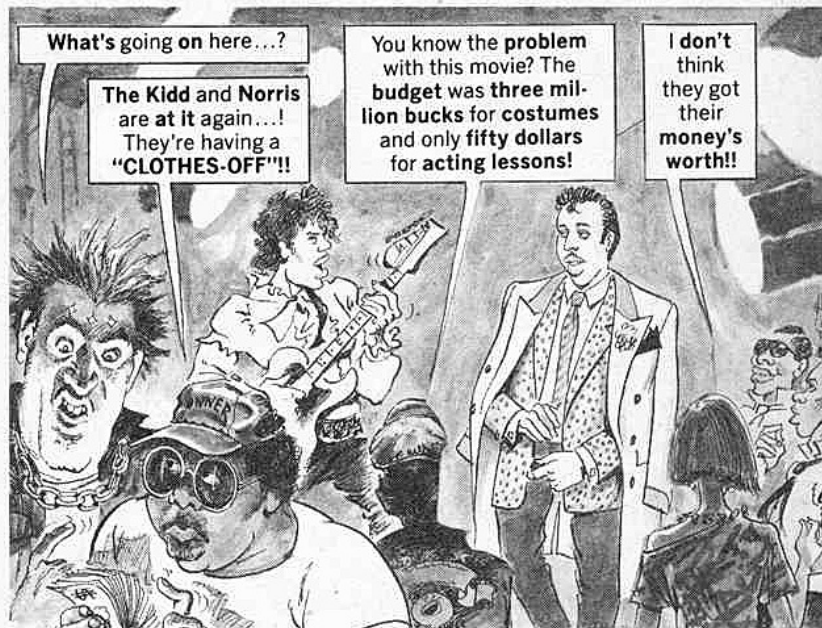
Oh, really...? What's holding you back...??

I need a GIMMICK!!











# The Karocky Kid

Danyell, you're gonna love California! It's much better than New Jersey! Whaddya think? Isn't it beautiful...?

I'm not sure, Mom! We've been in L.A. three hours...and I still haven't seen it! Right now, it looks like the Pulaski Skyway during the rush hour!!

ENCINO  
EXIT HERE



Hi, there! I'm a bright, gorgeous, California blonde!

Hi, there, yourself! I'm trash from New Jersey! We have absolutely nothing in common!

We're holding the same volley ball, aren't we?

Yeah! So what?

In California... that's a COMMITMENT!!



Meet my ex-boyfriend, Johnnymop! He has a Black Belt in Karate!

How come it's over between you two?

He ALSO has a Black Belt in PERSONALITY!!



Punk...I'm gonna beat you up...California style!!

CALIFORNIA style...?!

Yeah!! You ready...?!



POW!







You new boy in building, eh? My name is Miyakki, the most mysterious, wisest Maintenance Man in Southern California!

What makes you so wise?

I never do any "maintenance"!!

BONSAI!



You've been in California for a week, now, Danyell! How are you enjoying school...?

Well...the kids have a NICKNAME for me! They call me "TIMEX"!!

"TIMEX"? Why do they call you "Timex"?

Because...I'm being beaten up like clockwork! But...I take a lickin'...and keep on tickin'!

Wow! The old man is singlehandedly wiping out five teenage toughs! Hey, Man, where'd you learn that??

I learn from very special person—in place I was at years ago!

From your Father? Back in Okinawa?

No...from man called "The Fonz"—in series called "Happy Days"!!

You were terrific, Miyakki! I want you to teach me Karate!

Violence is always last answer to problem, Danyell!

But I'm getting my butt kicked every day!

Karate not in fists! Karate in heart and in mind!!

Tell THEM that! So far...their hearts and minds are beating the crap out of me!!

Those are the guys that have been pounding me to a pulp! And that macho lunatic is their Instructor!!

Remember! Strike first! Strike hard! No mercy—EVER! Boni, you showed mercy! Give me thirty pushups—the hard way!!

On my knuckles...??

On your FACE!! The rest of you, practice today's lesson... "How To Knee A Peace-Loving Pacifist In The Groin"!

Truss, I come to request that your student refrain from beating up Danyell until the Karate Tournament... when they will meet in big match!

What! This wimp doesn't stand a chance! Johnny-mop is stronger, faster, more experienced, and fights dirtier!

True, but we have tradition on our side...!

WHAT tradition?

Inspiring motion pictures called "Rocky I", "Rocky II" and "Rocky III"!

BRUCE LEE SYMPOSIUM

KARATE TOURNAMENT  
DEC 19  
ENTER HERE



We have much work before tournament! These are the rules! I TEACH! You LISTEN! Deal...??

Deal!!

Good! Start by waxing my cars! Then—sand my deck, stain my fence, paint my house ... and then, I have another small task...

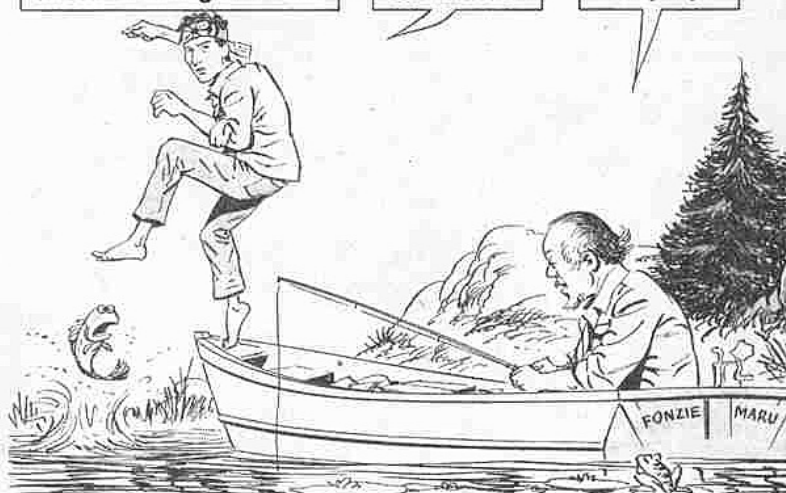
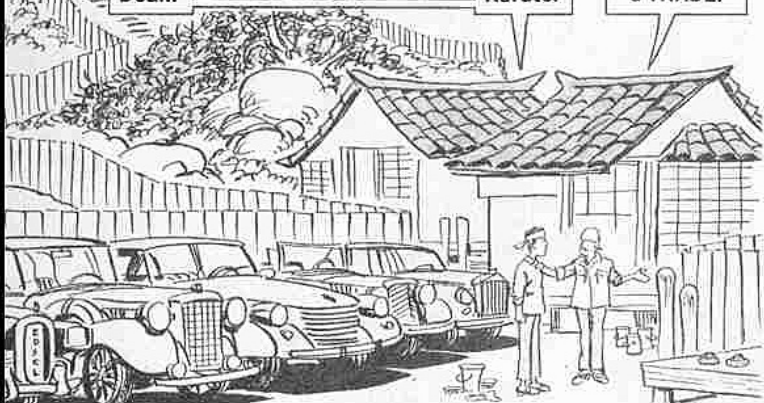
How will doing all that help me learn Karate?

It won't! But... if you lose tournament and can't go back to school, at least you will have a TRADE!

Humility and discipline are first steps in mastering Karate! Also, **BALANCE!!** Good balance essential to good Karate! So practice balance on bow of rocking rowboat...

Be honest, Mr. Myakkil! What are my chances in the tournament??

If you fight on **ROWBOAT**, you are home free! Fight on land... very iffy!



I have taught you well! Your heart and your mind are well-disciplined—and your balance is tuned!

Yeah, but his fists and his feet are lethal weapons... and he outweighs me by a hundred pounds! I think he's got an edge ... and I'm scared stiff!

See....?? You are already qualified for a "Yellow Belt"!!

I find it hard to believe that a skinny kid like me—with only "mental toughness"—won't get **KILLED** by a **Black Belt Super Star** like him....!!

If you're looking for things that are hard to believe, how about a **Maintenance Man** who owns five antique cars and a huge house...?

And a cute, rich blonde who's attracted to the school wimp...?

Great! My spirits are really soaring now!!



You **WON!!!** How'd you DO it???

I got smart! At the last second, I came to my senses and **CHANGED COACHES!** If not, I'm a dead man!

What can I say? Not one single thing in this film was believable! I loved it!!

I loathed it! Why, I walked out in the middle... and I was on a **PLANE!!**

Must've been a **JUMBO JET!** That's the only kind that you'd fit through!

That's all the time we have! So...till we meet again... we'll see you at the movies!

We'll be easy to spot!! Gene's **HEAD** will be shining in the audience!

And Roger will be wearing white... so they can project the **MOVIE** on his back!!





## SOUR GREATS DEPT.

Until recently, it was pretty easy to categorize most comic strip heroes. They were either: (1) Noble and courageous; or (2) Funny, lovable clods. The bottom line was: They were generally decent people. Today, of course, we still have our share of positive personalities on the funny pages. But have you noticed there's a subtle, insidious element gradually taking over? Well, it's true! We call this

# THE TREND TOWARD ROTTENNESS IN THE COMIC STRIPS

For example, take a look at some of the more popular funny page heroes of today:

First of all, there's "ANDY CAPP"...



A rotten, amoral insect, who never did an honest day's work, or a worthwhile thing, in his whole entire life.

And then, there's "ARNOLD"...



An insensitive, insulting character who constantly nauseates people with his foul stories and vicious comments.

And then, there's "CROCK"...



A sadistic taskmaster who relishes causing his men pain.

And finally, there's the king in "THE WIZARD OF ID"...



A selfish, unenlightened ruler who overtaxes his subjects and punishes them for minor, or even non-existent crimes.

Well if this is the trend of the future, it's only a matter of time before the few remaining decent comic strip characters will have to shape up or ship out. Which brings us to this article... containing examples of what could happen...



# WHEN ALL COMIC STRIP CA

## BLONDIE

ARTIST: BOB CLARKE

WRITER: LARRY SIEGEL



## ANNIE



## FAMILY CIRCUS

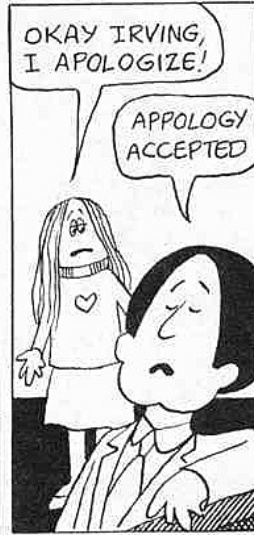
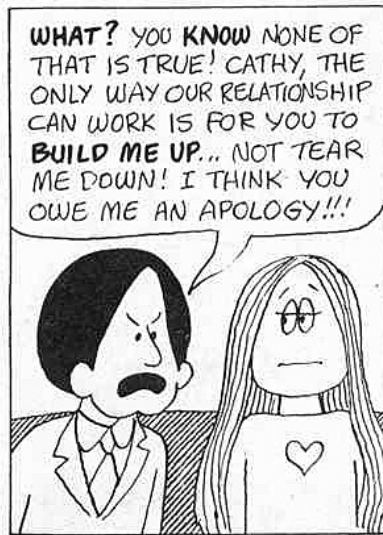




# CHARACTERS TURN ROTTEN



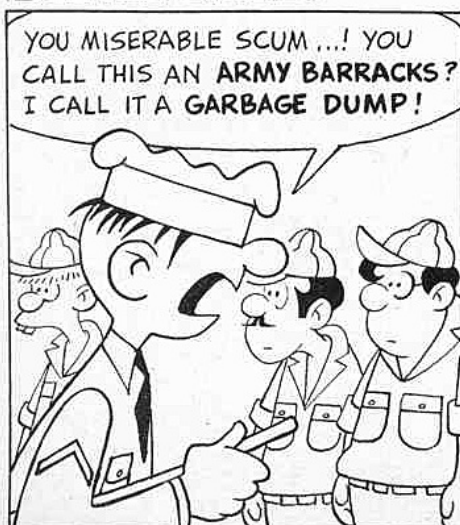
## CATHY



## PEANUTS

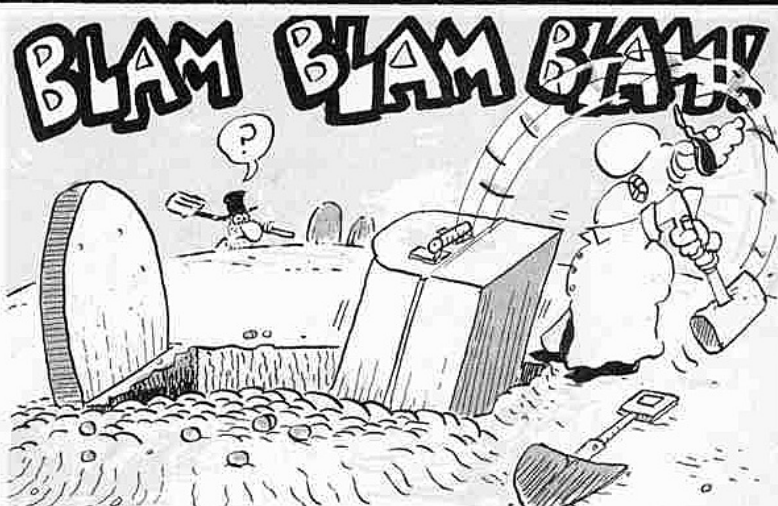
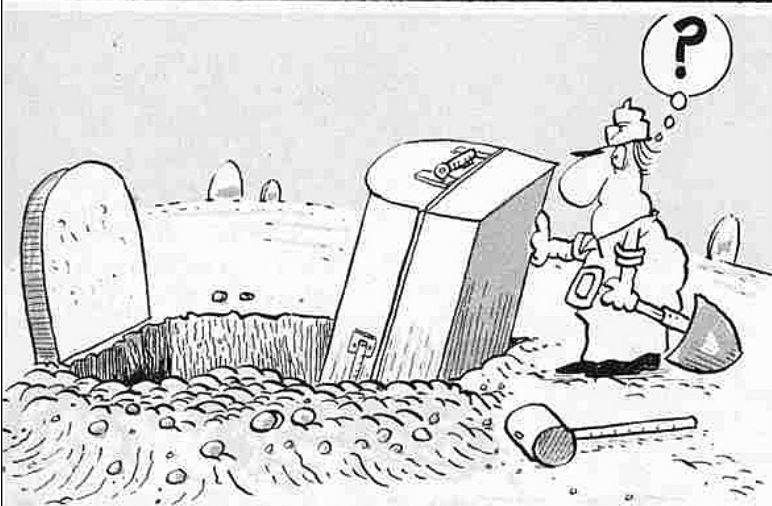
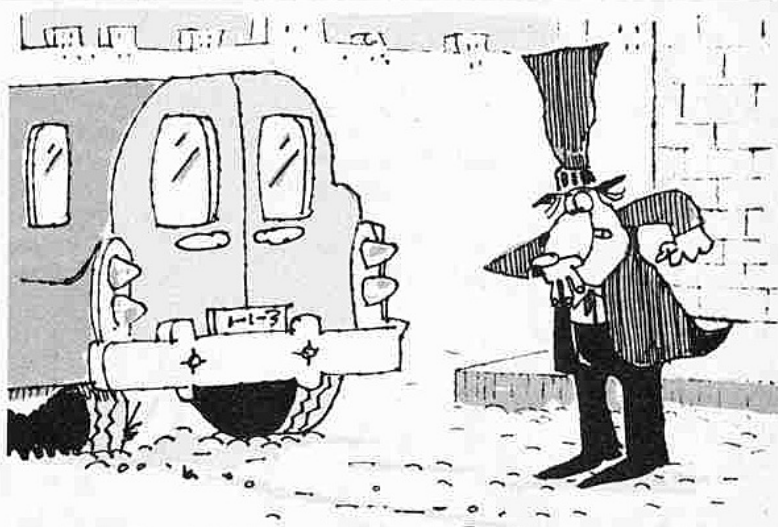
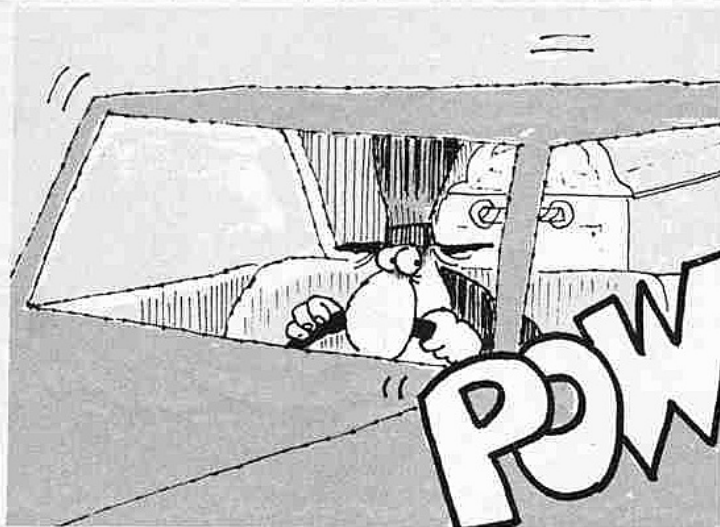


## BEETLE BAILEY

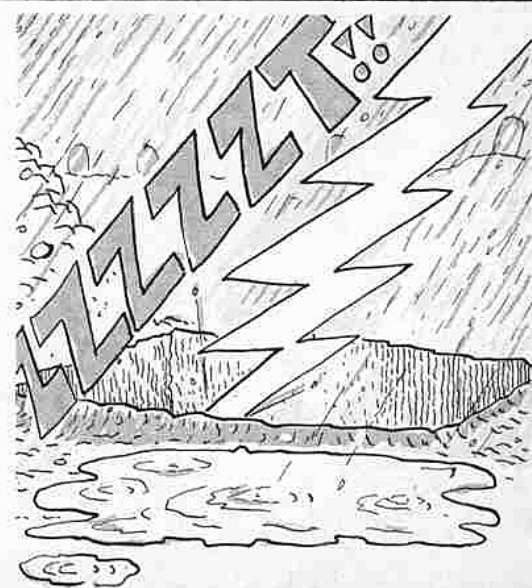




# DON EDWING LOO

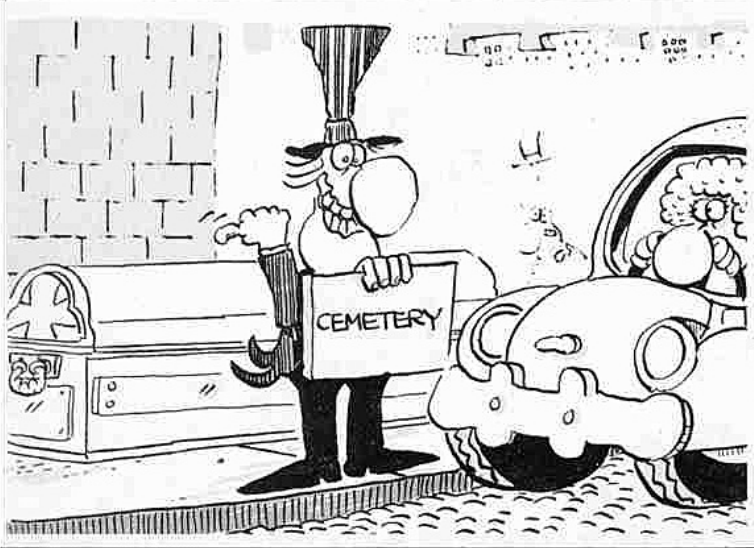


WRITER AND ARTIST: DON EDWING

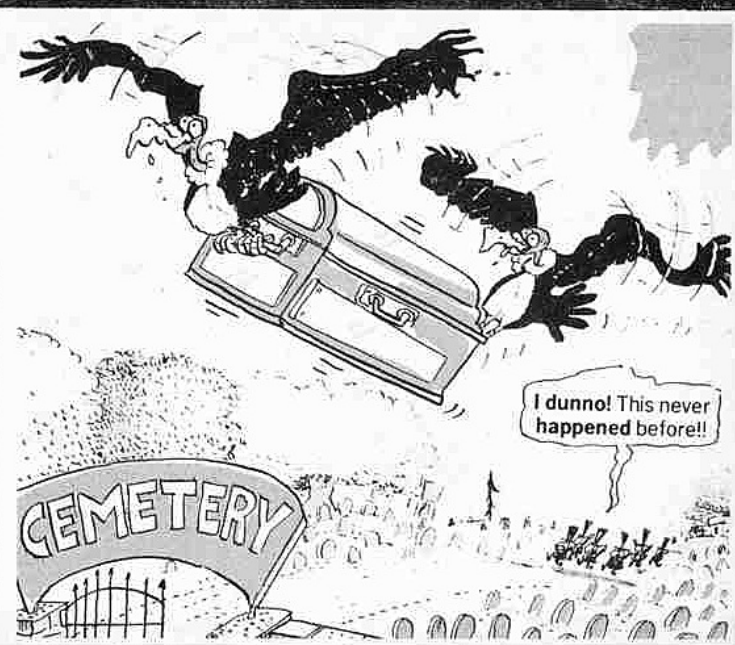
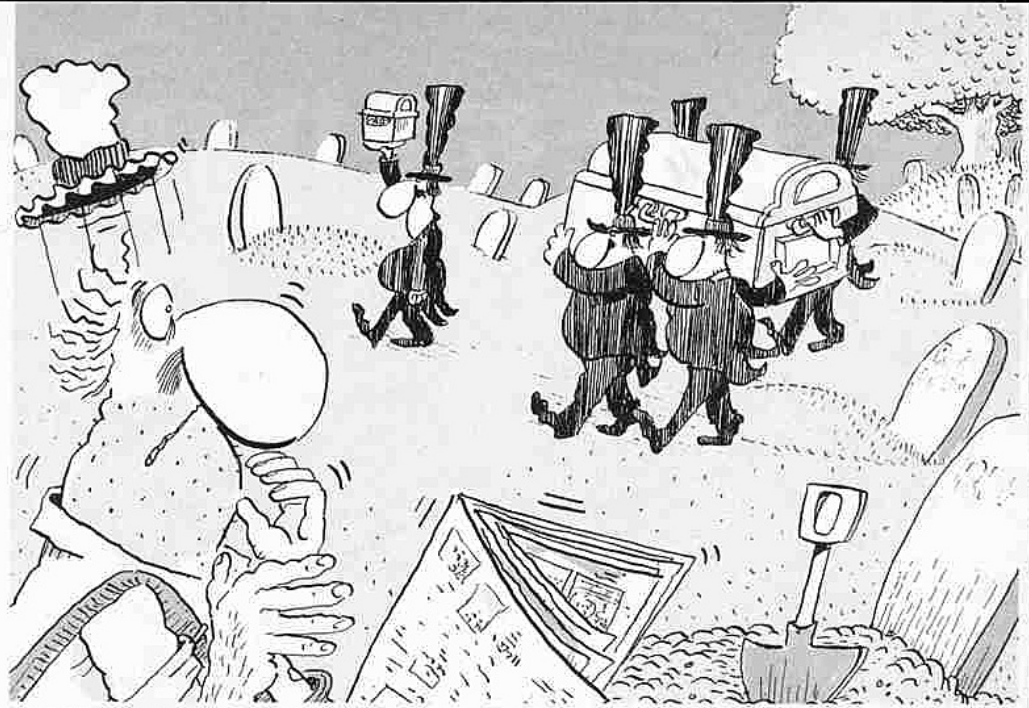




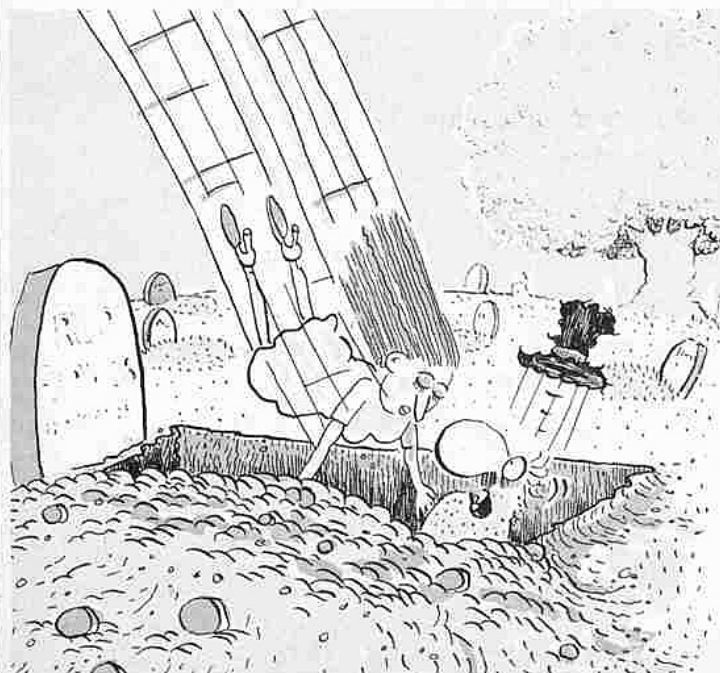
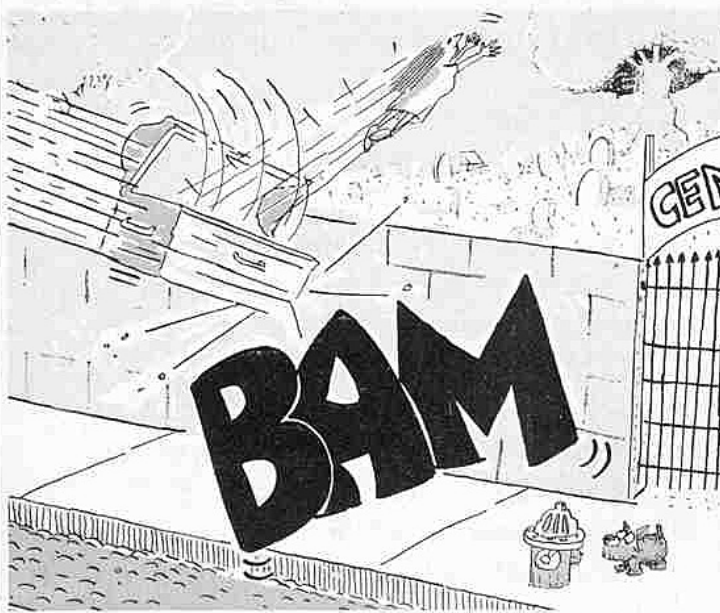
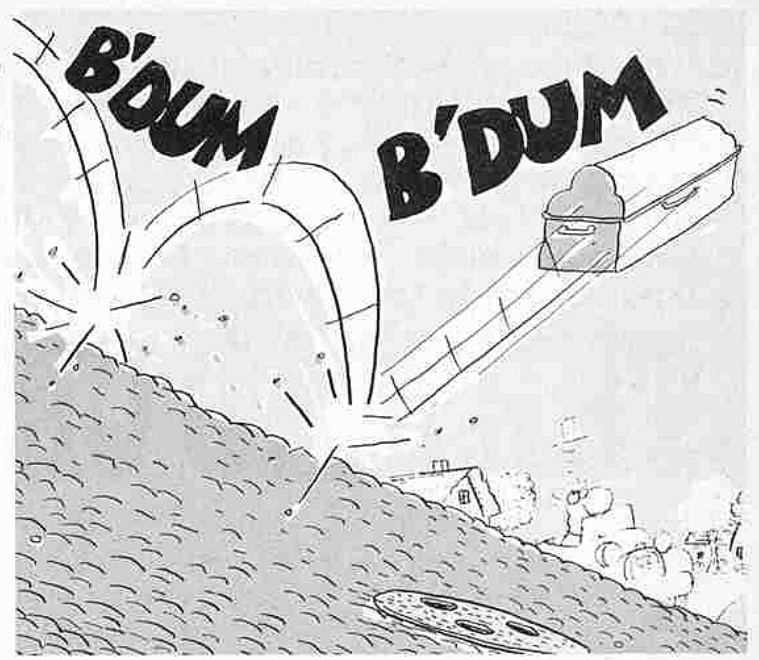
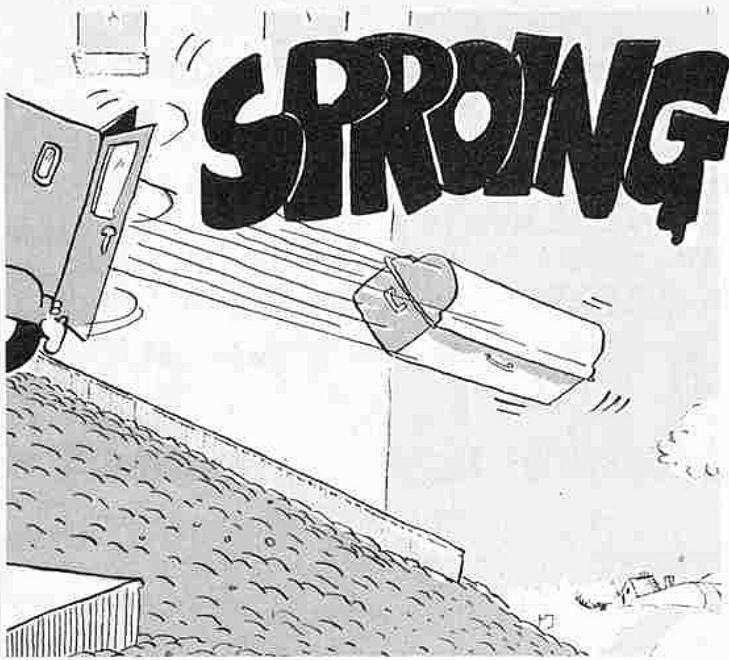
# KS AT FUNERALS













At one time or another, almost every one of us has received one of those "Good Luck Chain Letters." They're all pretty much the same. They promise incredible fortune and good luck—as long as you don't break the chain. And so, you make 20 copies—and you send them out, just in case there might be something to the stupid scheme. Don't you feel like an idiot doing it? Wouldn't you like to get even with all the nerds who create those Chain Letters—or who send them to you? Wouldn't you like to put an end to Chain Letters once and for all? Well, now you can—by mailing out

# THE MAD CHAIN LETTER

WRITER: FRANK JACOBS

— cut on dotted line —

Dear Friend:

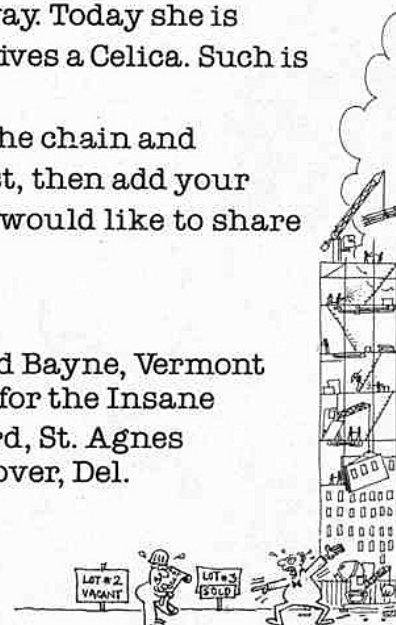
You have been chosen to receive this Message of Fortune. Do not doubt its power. It has circled the world more than 59 times. You will feel the full effect within four days, provided you do not break the chain.

An American Air Force general kept the chain going, and three days later lost \$250,000 in a stock swindle. A.J. Melton became impotent after he mailed out his 20 copies, but enjoyed a miracle recovery when the Post Office returned the letters because of insufficient postage. The chain was begun in 1933 by a convict in French Guiana. 18 hours later, a guard broke his skull and left his body for the ants. All 20 recipients kept the chain going. Of these, 10 developed incurable diseases, five were injured in natural catastrophes, four were trampled by mobs and one married an undesirable woman. Morris Belzer received the letter in 1947 and ignored it. Today he is a millionaire from his investments in the fast foods industry. E.W. Young asked his secretary to mail the 20 copies, but she put her own name on the letters instead. Three days later one of her implants fell, and she began to sweat abnormally in buses. The chain is powerful. Lydia Carver and her twin sister Marie both received this Message. Lydia kept the chain going, and five hours later disappeared in a Baltimore shopping center. Marie was not a believer and threw the letter away. Today she is married to a very successful tile salesman in the Midwest and drives a Celica. Such is the power of the chain.

You have been chosen. Remember that you are responsible for the chain and must realize its consequences. Cross out the first name on this list, then add your name at the bottom and mail 20 copies to those with whom you would like to share Fortune's Message.

M.R. Steinert (dec.)  
K. Rithbee, c/o Winville, S.C.,  
County Welfare Hospital  
James Fitch (dec.)  
M.M. Kaye, 60071—Death Row,  
San Quentin Prison  
Jean Farr (dec.)

W.W. Farr (dec.)  
N. Bonaparte, c/o Harold Bayne, Vermont  
Hospital for the Insane  
J. Tantalio, Critical Ward, St. Agnes  
Hospital, Dover, Del.  
Byron Wilkes (dec.)  
H. Conner (dec.)





When Americans travel through the world, there are Tourist Guide Books that describe each country's natives, their interests and how they live. Unfortunately, there are no such Tourist Guide Books for Americans traveling through their own country that describe each region's natives, their interests and how they live. So we present...

# AN INSTANT GUIDE TO AMERICAN REGIONAL TYPES

ARTIST: PAUL COKER WRITER: FRANK JACOBS



## NEW ENGLANDERS

Resharpener their  
disposable razors.

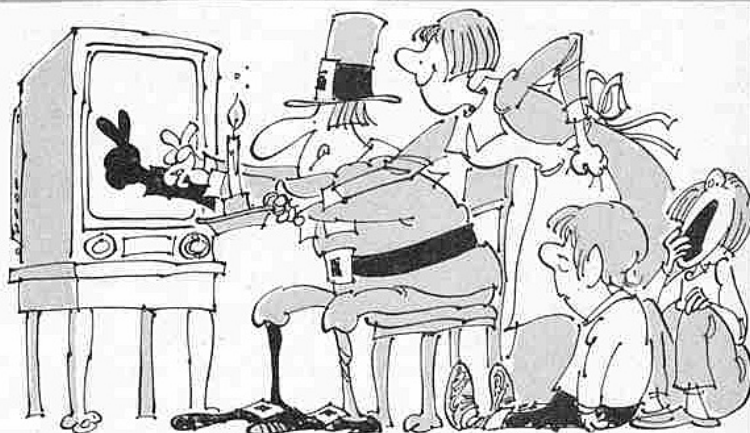
Call their parents  
"Mr.—" and "Mrs.—"

Consider credit cards  
"tools of the devil."

Regard second generation  
Americans as "immigrants."

Refuse to buy paper  
clips without a  
90-day warranty.

Believe the decline in  
morality began with the  
phasing out of suspenders.



## NEW YORKERS

Organize vigilante groups to  
patrol inside their apartments.

Yell "Hurry up!" dur-  
ing funeral eulogies.

Greet their party guests only  
after they've passed through  
a metal detector.

Check to see if their wallets  
are still there while attend-  
ing religious services.

Freebase  
soot.

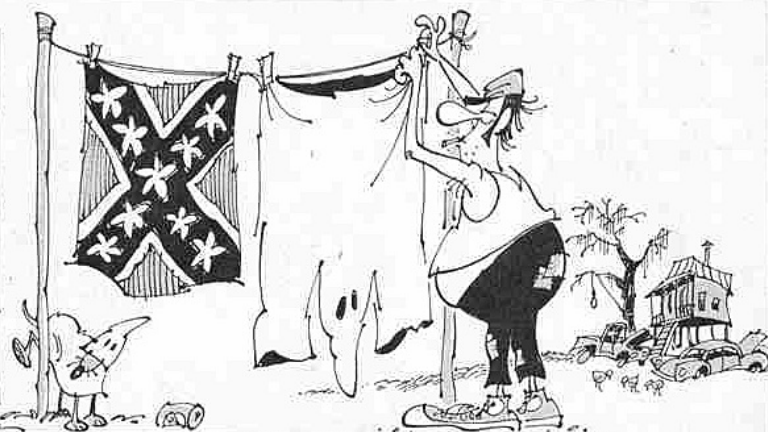
Frisk their  
children.





## SOUTHERNERS

Would like to vaccinate visiting Northerners.	Bury their hound-dogs in Confederate Flag shrouds.
Learn "Possum Cuisine" in High School Home Economics classes.	Soak their dentures overnight in glasses of Jack Daniels.
Share the chewing tobacco on their honeymoons.	Carry on feuds over swamp rights.



## MIDWESTERNERS

Polka in discos.	Hang out the American Flag on William McKinley's birthday.
Entertain visitors with home movies of their garage sales.	Snore with a twang.
Own "His-and-Hers" manure spreaders.	Regard "K-Mart" as a designer label.

## SOUTHWESTERNERS

Close schools for Apache holidays.	Name their children after obscure igneous rocks.
Train lizards to handle minor household chores.	Include token Navajos at Rotary Club meetings.
Hold Tupperware parties in abandoned cliff dwellings.	Rate a man by the horsepower of his pickup truck.



## NEVADANS

Propose double-or-nothing bets during I.R.S. audits.	Take odds on total highway deaths on major holidays.
Get rid of children they feel are unlucky.	Take out Medical Insurance to cover "Slot Machine Elbow."
Offer "Blackjack Card-Counting" as a High School elective.	Fast on Jimmy The Greek's birthday.





## CALIFORNIANS

Apply "Grecian Formula" to their aging poodles.

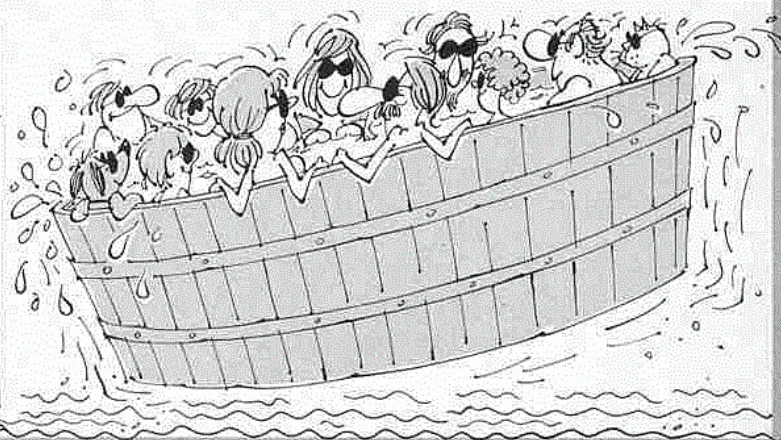
Lamé their Frisbees.

Freeze-dry cocaine.

Cast horoscopes for their cars.

Consider it trendy to jog during earthquakes.

Honor their dead with designer tombstones.



## HAWAIIANS

Rarely hula on the first date.

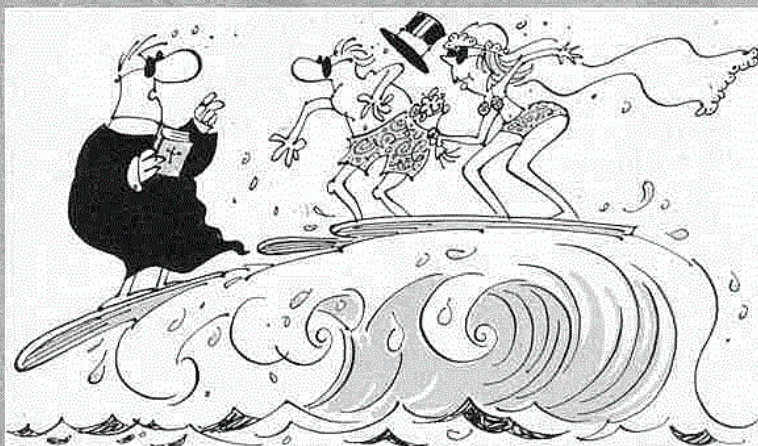
Enjoy hearing "The 1812 Overture" arranged for the ukulele.

Are buried with their surfboards.

Spend Saturdays watching slow-moving molten lava.

Take little interest in ice hockey.

Wear black leis to funerals.



## TEXANS

Believe that owning more than two 747's is pretentious.

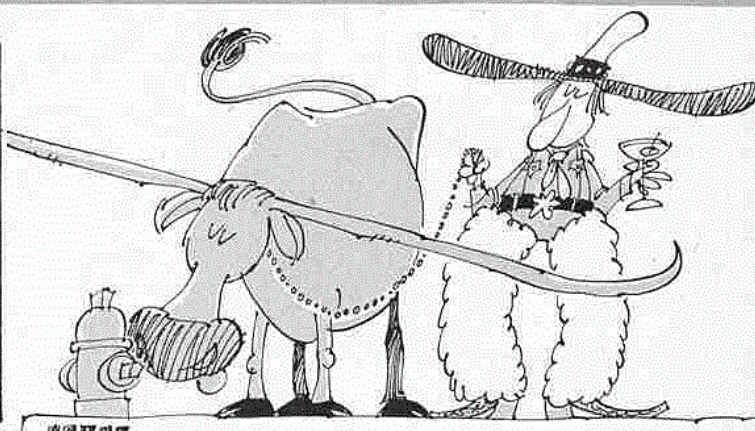
Have unlisted area codes.

Refer to anyone less than six feet four as "Shorty."

Rent Oklahoma for picnics and family gatherings.

Protect their ranches with MX missiles.

Refuse to recognize the existence of Alaska.



## ALASKANS

Only say "Goodnight" once a winter.

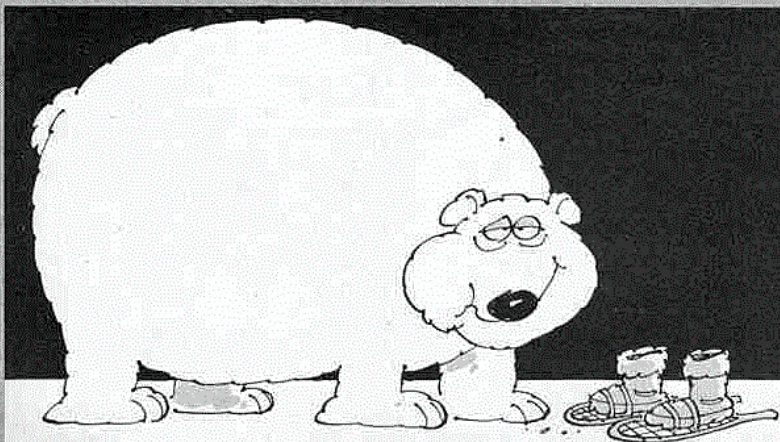
Prepare delicious whale blubber quiches.

Organize "Sled Pools" during transit strikes.

Say "Hot enough for you?" when the mercury hits 40.

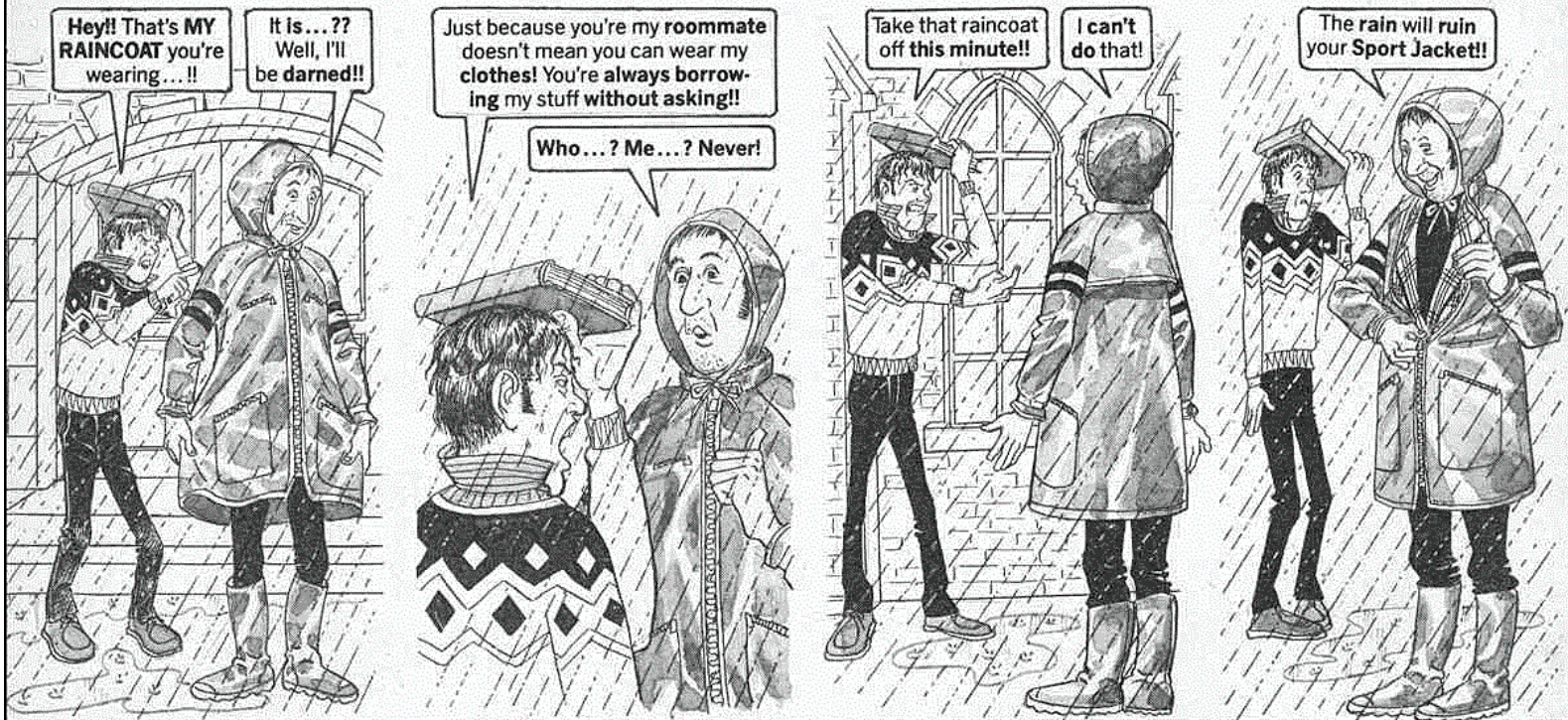
Play football on artificial tundra.

Feel very uncomfortable in crowded places like Wyoming.





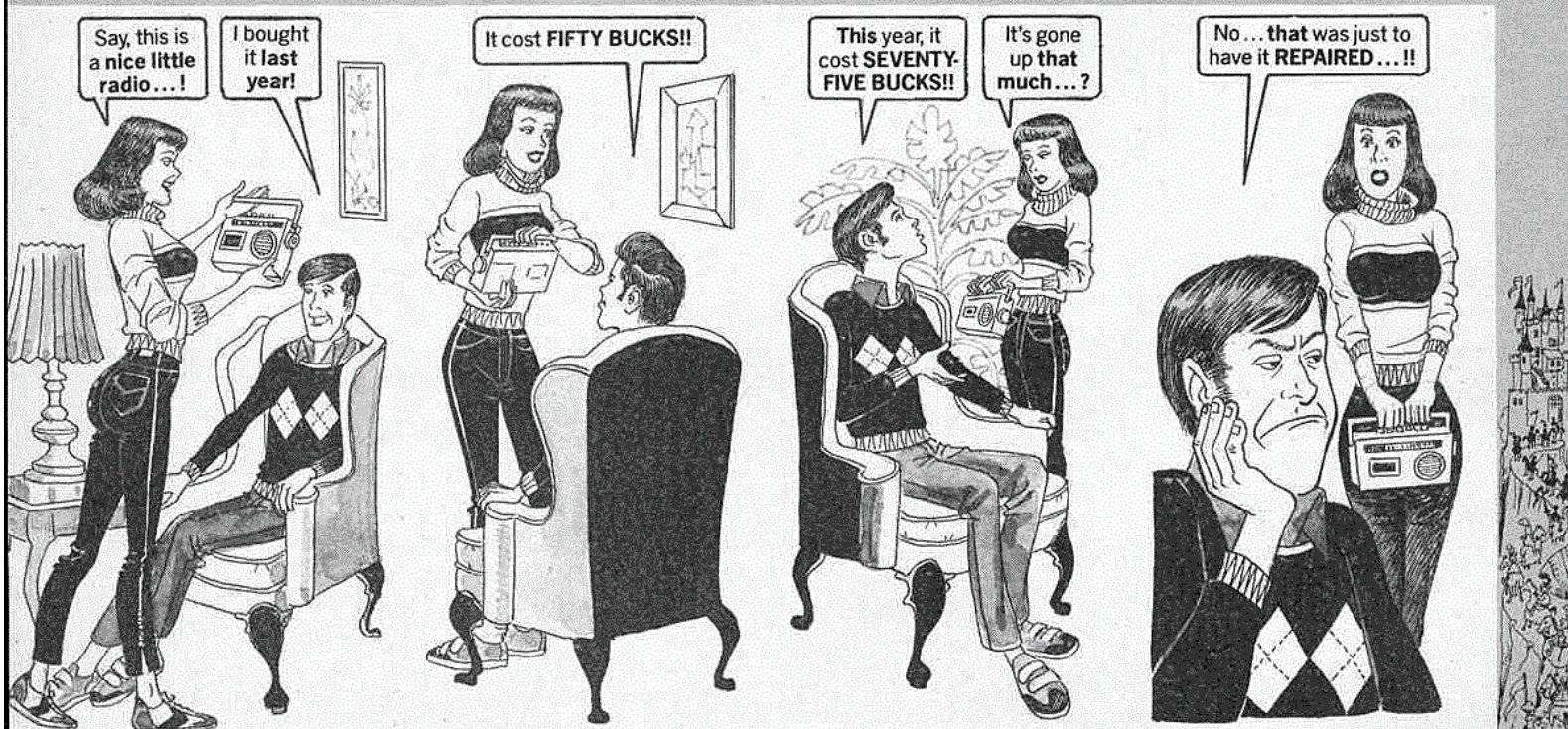
## ROOMMATES



BERG'S-EYE VIEW DEPT.

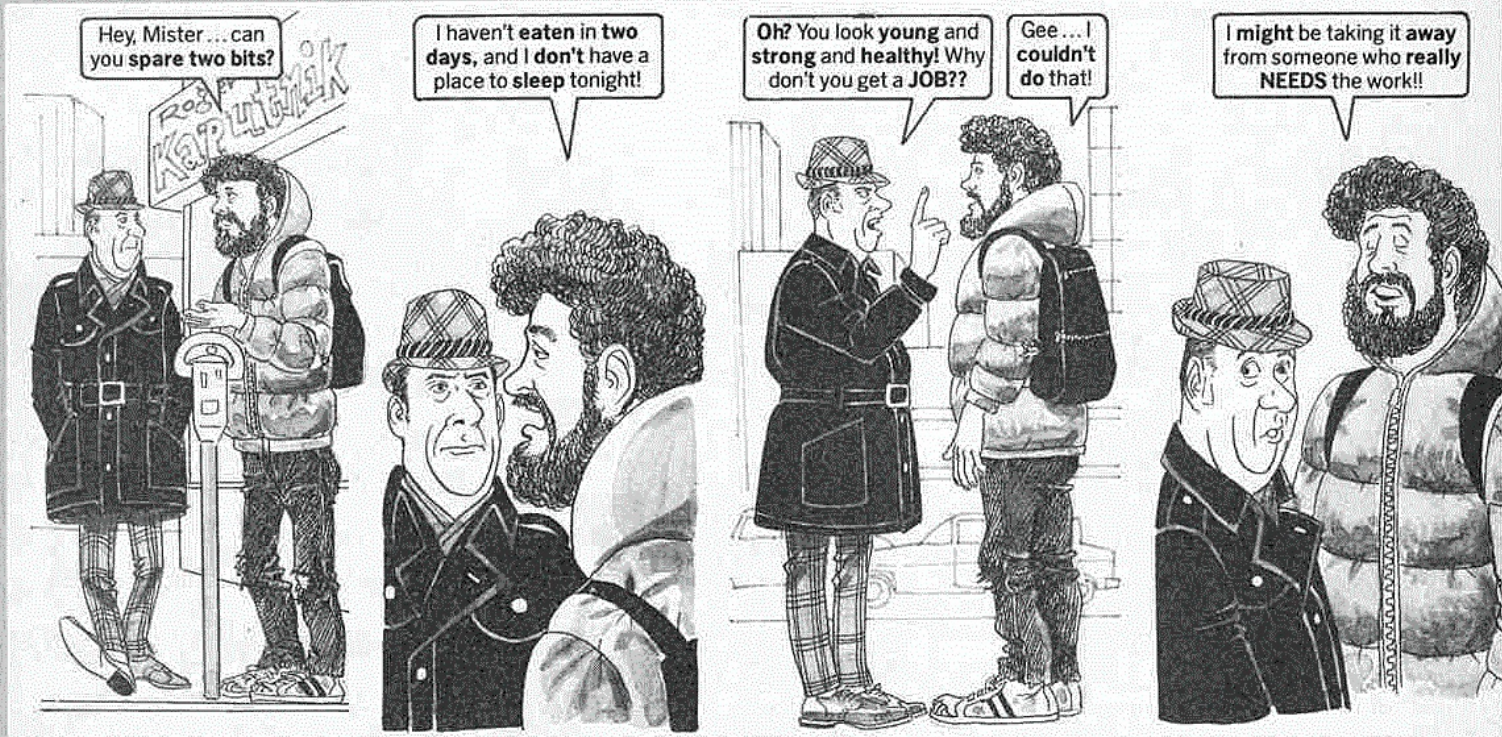
# THE LIGHTE

## THE ECONOMY





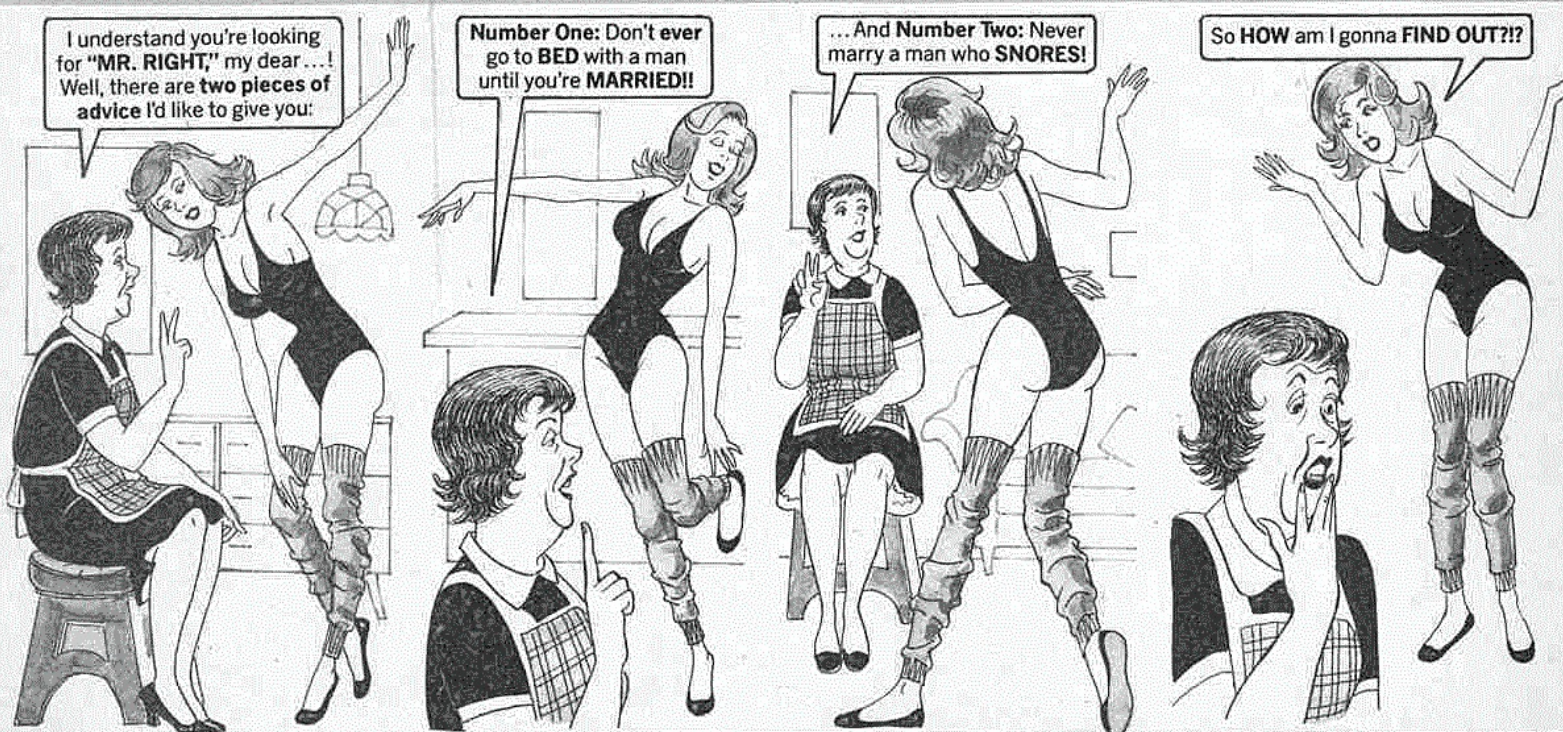
# PANHANDLING



# R SIDE OF...

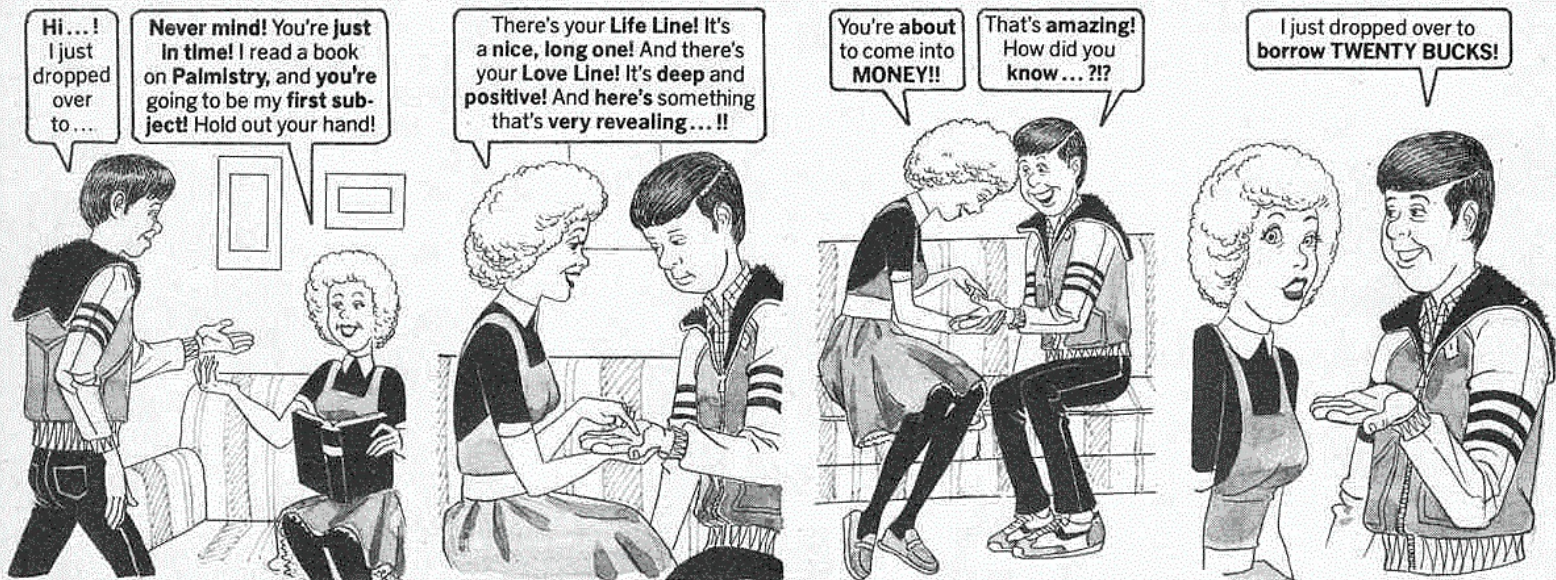
ARTIST & WRITER:  
DAVE BERG

## ADVICE

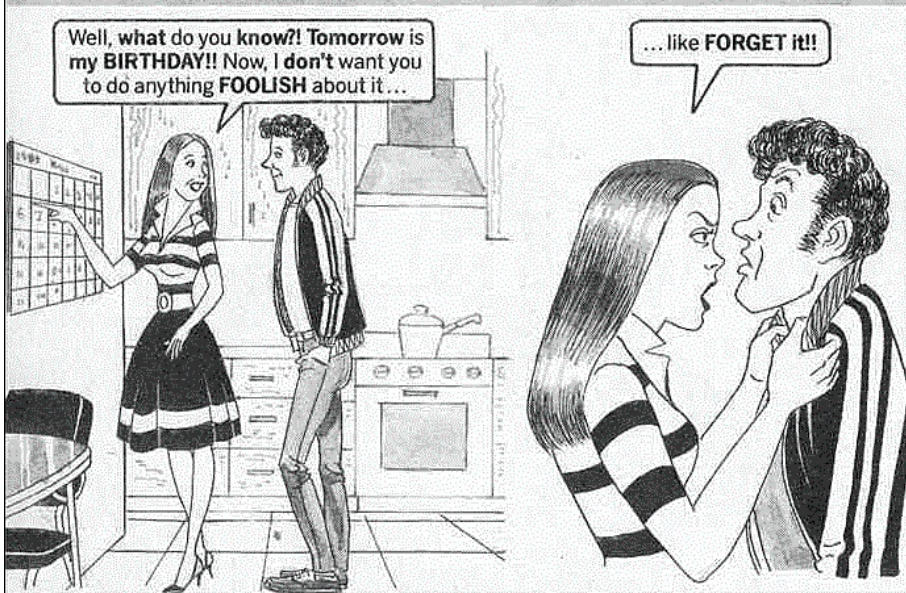




## FORTUNE TELLING



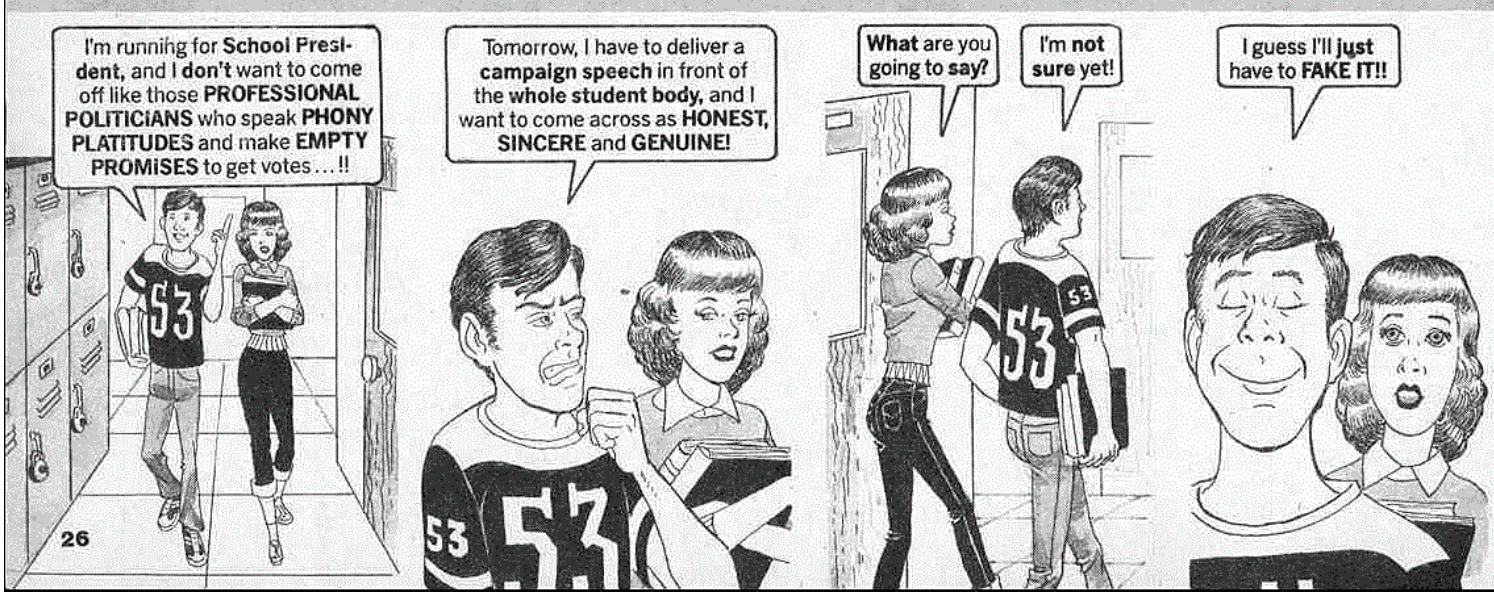
## BIRTHDAYS



## STRANGE BEHAVIOR



## POLITICS





## BREAKING UP

We're through!! Finished!! Washed up!! I never want to SEE you again, Buster!

But... why...??

Because you're a LIAR, a CHEAT, a LAZY GOOD-FOR-NOTHING, a BULLY and an OBNOXIOUS INDIVIDUAL!!

Then you won't mind if I go out with LAURA!?

Why would you want to go out with that creep?

I'd like to get a SECOND OPINION!!



## NAMES

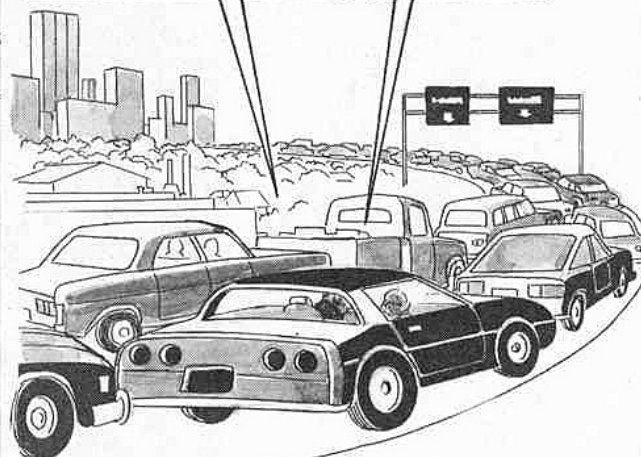
Because you're NOT COMPLAINING!!



Here we are, bumper-to-bumper... stuck in traffic at 5:30 PM... with NOBODY MOVING!!

THAT's something I always wondered about!

So why do they call it the "RUSH HOUR"...???



## CLOTHING

What in heck are you doing?

Looking for a GOOD PAIR of socks!!

What's wrong with these?

They've got HOLES!!

I see what you mean! Here's a pair... and one has a hole!!

Huh?? It does??

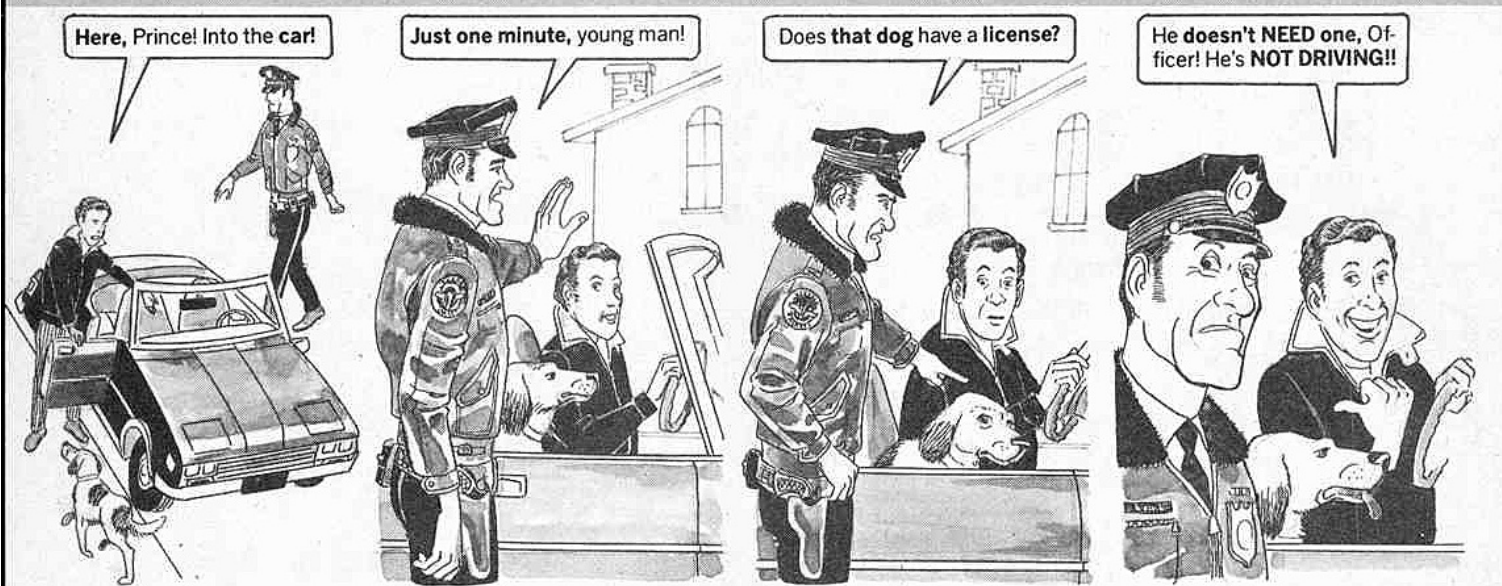
THAT's the pair I was LOOKING FOR...??!







## PETS



## THE JOB



## WHEELS





Two very confusing reports have appeared in our daily newspapers lately! The confusing thing about them is that sometimes they appeared right next to each other...like this:

## TEST SCORES SHOW KIDS CAN'T READ

## LURID PAPERBACKS POPULAR WITH TEENS

Taken together, these two items indicate that young people spend millions each year on books they can't read. Which doesn't make any sense. What does make sense is that most kids really can read...but they're so bored with the dull writing in stuffy textbooks that they've turned to trashy novels. So if educators ever hope to lure students back to learning by reading, it's obvious that schools must find a way to entertain them as they inform them. We therefore suggest they give some serious consideration to using:

# MAD'S LURID ROMANTIC TEXTBOOKS



ARTIST: HARRY NORTH WRITER: TOM KOCH

✓ 130<sup>4</sup> Sizzling Copies Already Sold!

## INTERMEDIATE MATHEMATICS

7<sup>+</sup>11 FOODSTORE



HE'D BEEN GOING LIKE 60 IN SEARCH  
OF A "10" UNTIL SHE GOT HIS NUMBER.

kissed her passionately for the twelfth time in those three glorious days since they had first met down by the grape arbor.

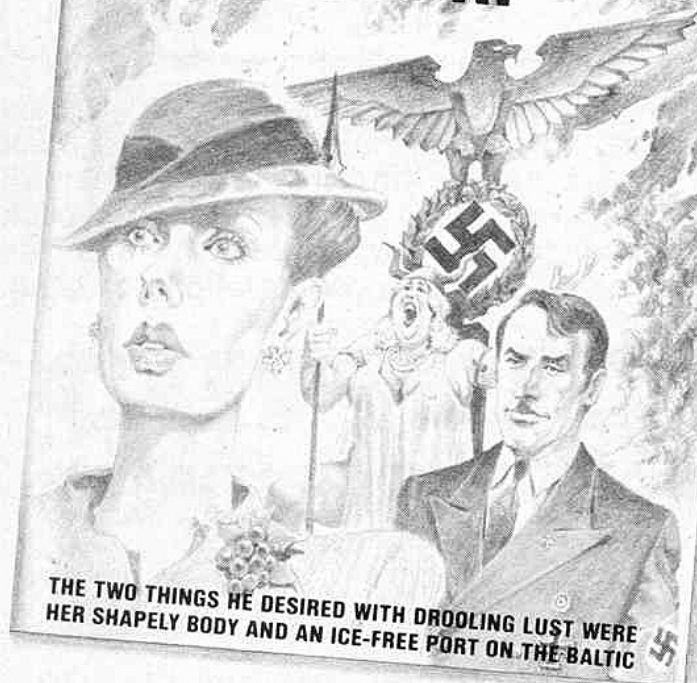
Melanie's dancing azure eyes looked up at him. "The use of short division tells me that we have now kissed an average of four times a day since we first met," she smiled.

Kevin laughed aloud, flashing 16 white teeth on the bottom and an equal number on top, for a total of 32. "How clever of you to make such a calculation, My Be-loved," he said at last. "Previously, I had assumed you were just a foolish child with an I.Q. 18 points below the average of 100, for a difference of 82."



Another Torrid Hit From  
The Publishers Of "Ancient World History"

# MODERN WORLD HISTORY



well tailored uniform fit Adolf's boyish hips snugly as he drifted down the spiral staircase.

Suddenly, his full, pouting lips parted into a smile as he noticed Eva's eyes drinking in his sensuality. After a pregnant moment, he spoke.

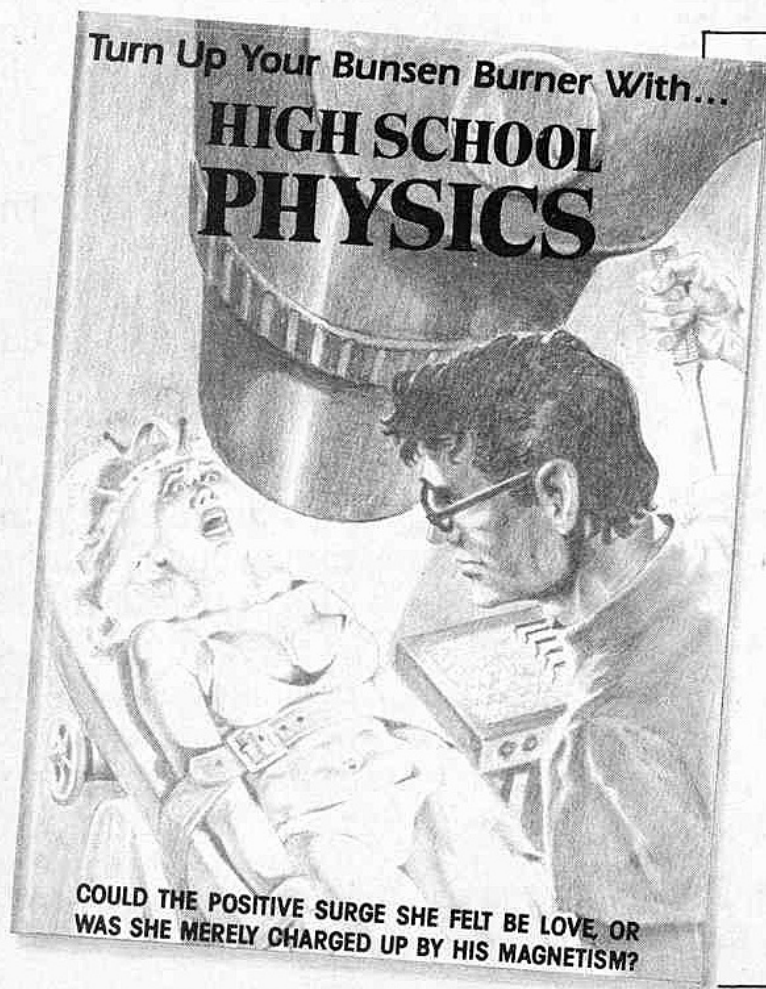
"Tomorrow," he said in his familiar Austrian drawl, "is September 1, 1939. We shall all get together at my place in the morning and invade Poland. This probably will set off World War II, which we will eventually lose on May 8, 1945. But then, life is full of disappointments, my lovely one."

And he stroked his little black moustache as his eyes drank in her full, lush body illuminated by the soft candlelight of the

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Turn Up Your Bunsen Burner With...

# HIGH SCHOOL PHYSICS



felt her face flush with sufficient heat to raise the temperature of one cubic centimeter of water one degree centigrade.

"I never loved Archimedes," she said petulantly. "I only admired his principles."

A sigh of relief rose from Stuart's chest as he exerted 3,000 ergs of force to draw the oxygen in his lungs upward in opposition to gravity.

"Hearing that has lifted a mass of weight from my shoulders, causing my energy to soar at a proportionate velocity," he smiled.

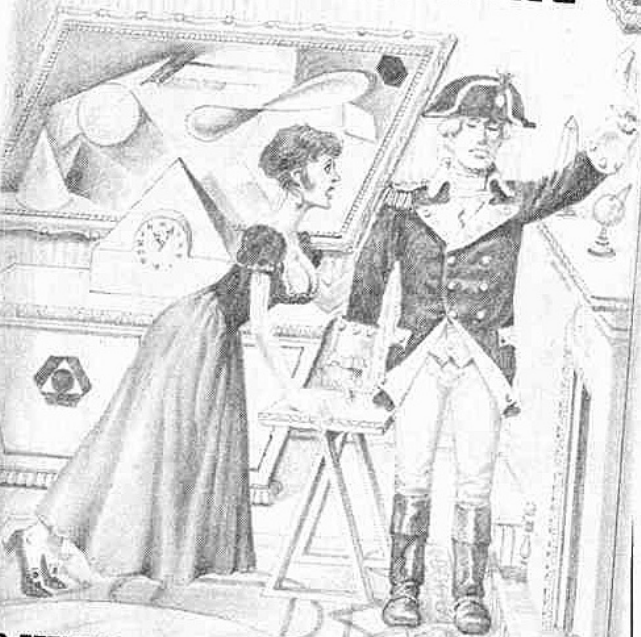
Suddenly, as if pulled together by an electromagnetic force that neither could resist without changing polarity, Lisa and Stuart were in each other's arms.

- 44 -



3.1416th Big Printing.

## FIRST BOOK OF PLANE GEOMETRY



HER FEELINGS FOR HIM HAD BECOME MORE  
ACUTE, BUT STILL HE REMAINED OBTUSE.

up at the moon, which formed such a perfect circle that Betsy felt sure the circumference must measure a full 360-degrees.

Suddenly, Commander Fitch of the Main Volunteers was holding her close and nibbling her ear.

"For as long as the square of the hypotenuse of a right triangle shall equal the sum of the squares of the other two sides, our love will last, My Dearest," he whispered. "Which means forever!"

"But what about a trapezoid, My Darling?" she asked breathlessly.

"Silly girl!" he laughed. "A trapezoid is a quadrilateral, as we shall have the rest of our lives to discover together!"

And his hand moved sensually over the parallel lines of her silken bodice, while his lips

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A Dashing South-Of-The-Border  
Linguist Invites You to Learn...

## FIRST YEAR SPANISH



HER LIPS TOLD HIM, "¡BUENOS DIAS!"...BUT  
THERE WAS "¿COMO ESTA USTED?" IN HER EYES.

looked even lovelier as her face flushed crimson in his royal presence.

"El señor es mi padre. La señora es mi madre," she murmured huskily.

"¿Que es el nombre de su padre y su madre?" he asked in a firm voice, summoning up some of his forgotten Spanish.

"El nombre de mi padre es Carlos. El nombre de mi madre es Luisa," she smiled, throwing back her shoulders seductively.

"Y el nombre de mi perro es Alberto," she whispered, moving closer so that he could feel her hot breath on his neck.

"¿Es Alberto un estudiante?" he asked, his pulse quickening.

"No," she replied softly. "Alberto no es un estudiante. Alberto es un fox terrier."

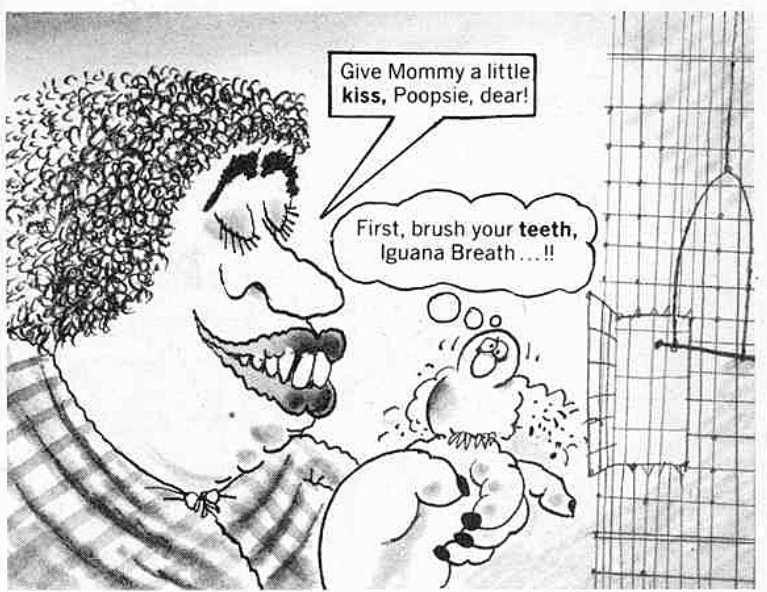
- 27 -





**SNAPPING ANSWERS DEPT.**

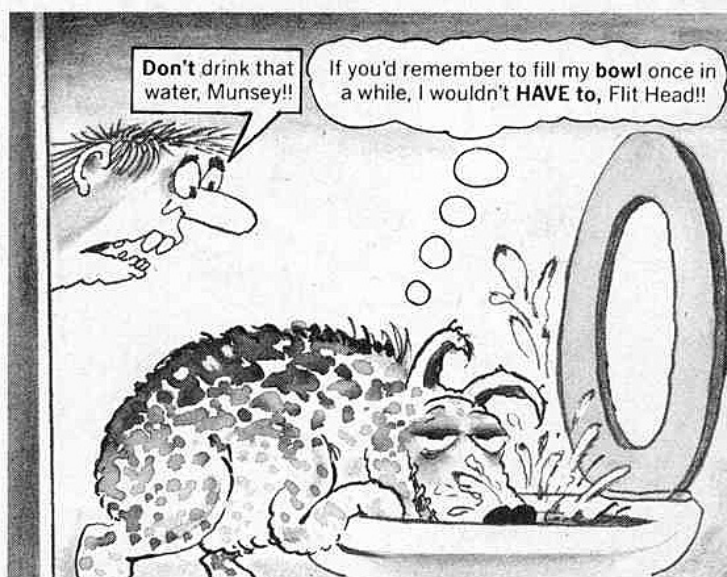
# A MAD L PE BACK





# LOOK AT TS' TALK

WRITER AND ARTIST: PAUL PETER PORGES







ORWELL THAT ENDS WELL DEPT.

1) **35,000,000**  
This figure represents:

- a) The number of copies of Michael Jackson's "Thriller" album sold in 1984;
- b) The amount demanded monthly by Johnny Carson's estranged wife, Joanna;
- c) The number of stupid "Where's the beef?" jokes told in 1984;
- d) The amount squandered by the Pentagon on the average screw.

2) On which touchy, controversial subject has an exploitative made-for-TV-movie not been done?

- a) Teen pornography;
- b) Necrophiliac child care centers;
- c) The effects of nuclear war on a group of Hollywood prostitutes;
- d) The proliferation of sleazy, titillating, exploitative made-for-TV movies.

3) Which special interest group did Walter Mondale not solicit the support of?

- a) Right-handed Mohican proctologists;
- b) Gay beekeepers;
- c) Fortune cookie proofreaders;
- d) Left-handed Mohican proctologists.

4) The scene to the left depicts:

- a) A campus riot, circa 1968;
- b) An El Salvador death squad in action;
- c) The escalation of the Iran-Iraq border war;
- d) A group of parents trying to purchase Cabbage Patch Dolls.

5) Which of these objects is older than the average Russian Politburo member?

- a) A California redwood;
- b) The steamboat;
- c) The Magna Carta;
- d) The written word.

6) Following the big telephone company breakup, which of the following is the most-efficient, least expensive way to call someone:

- a) AT&T
- b) MCI
- c) Sprint
- d) Two tin cans and a long piece of string.

7) What is the only color Cyndi Lauper failed to incorporate into her wardrobe in 1984?

- a) Navahoe white;
- b) Safety red;
- c) Plaid;
- d) Rocky road.



# THE MAD





8) Of the following "factors", which had the greatest influence on President Reagan's bid for re-election?

- a) The "age factor";
- b) The "Teflon factor";
- c) The "sleaze factor";
- d) Max Factor.

9) Which Olympic event was most seriously diluted by the Russian boycott?

- a) The men's basketball tournament;
- b) The women's track and field competition;
- c) The decathlon competition;
- d) The standing-in-line-for-eight-hours-to-buy-toilet-paper event.

10) Which of the following had the shortest lifespan in 1984?

- a) Sugar Ray Leonard's boxing comeback;
- b) Reuben Askew's Presidential campaign;
- c) Anne Burford's E.P.A. comeback;
- d) The career of any singer who refused to jump on the video bandwagon.

11) Where was the most exotic place visited by Ronald Reagan in 1984?

- a) Peking, China;
- b) Fairbanks, Alaska;
- c) Dublin, Ireland;
- d) The Oval Office.

12) Although released the previous year, the movie "Risky Business" continued to do very well at the box office in 1984. Which 1984 activity proved to be the riskiest business in real life?

- a) Trying to vote in El Salvador;
- b) Becoming the front-runner in the Democratic Presidential campaign;
- c) Starting a USFL expansion team;
- d) Accepting a position in the Reagan cabinet.

13) For which of the following activities did baseball players receive the least media coverage in 1984?

- a) Their drug habits;
- b) Their sensationalistic books;
- c) Their contract disputes and battles with team owners;
- d) Their baseball playing abilities.

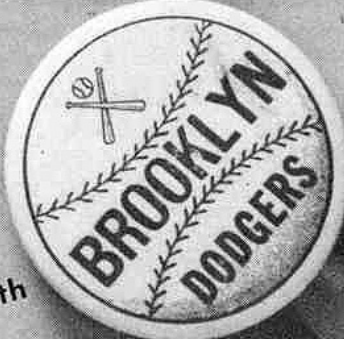
14) Which award did Michael Jackson fail to win in 1984?

- a) The Nobel Peace prize;
- b) Playboy's Playmate of the Year;
- c) Most Valuable Player, National Hockey League;
- d) The Purple Heart.

REAGAN  
BUSH '84

QUIZ

WHERE'S  
THE BEEF!



WRITER: DESMOND DEVLIN

"BUTTONS" PHOTOGRAPH: IRVING SCHILD



If you walk down a brightly-lit street, that's good!  
If you walk down a dark street, two things can happen:

You won't get mugged!



You will get mugged!



If you find a job that's easier, that's good! If you wind up unemployed and walking the streets, two things can happen:

You'll walk down a brightly-lit street!



You'll walk down a street that's dark!



OPT-TICKLES DEPT.

# IF YOU GO DOWN A DARK STREET

ARTIST: GEORGE WOODBRIDGE

If you're able to work again at your old job, that's good!  
If you're not able to return to work, two things can happen:

You'll find another job that's a lot easier!



You'll wind up unemployed and walking the streets!



If you're patched up in tolerable shape, that's good! If you're patched up in terrible shape, two things can happen:

You'll be able to work again at your old job!



You won't be able to work again at your old job!

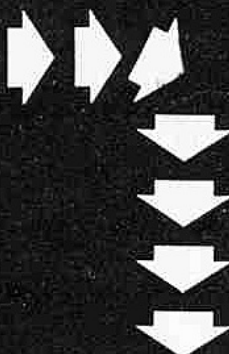




If you don't get mugged, that's good! If you do get mugged, two things can happen:

You won't be seriously hurt!

You'll require medical aid!



If you're not seriously hurt, that's good! If you are seriously hurt and require medical aid, two things can happen:

You won't need surgery!

You will need surgery!



If you don't need surgery, that's good! If you do need surgery, two things can happen:

There'll be a competent doctor on duty that night!

There'll be an incompetent doctor on duty that night!



If the doctor on duty is competent, that's good! If the doctor is incompetent, two things can happen:

He'll patch you up in tolerable shape!

He'll patch you up in terrible shape!



# WALK DOWN A STREET

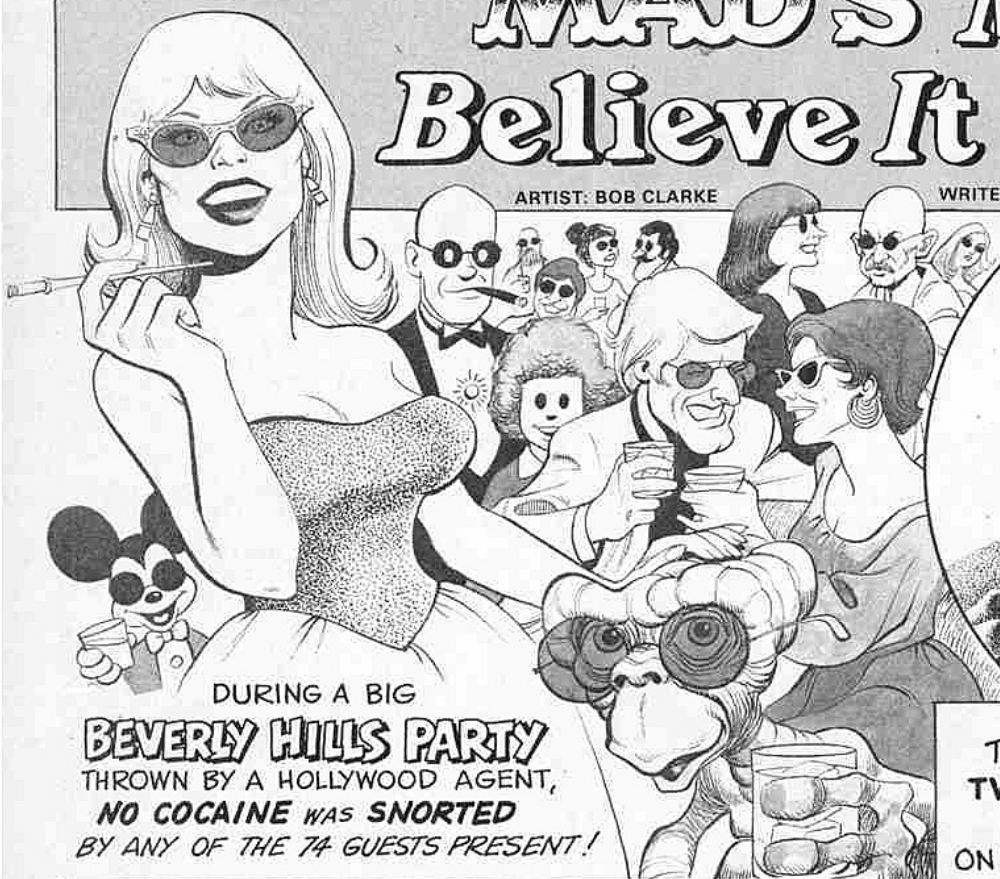
WRITER: FRANK JACOBS



# MAD'S Modern Believe It or Nuts!

ARTIST: BOB CLARKE

WRITER: FRANK JACOBS



**DURING A BIG  
BEVERLY HILLS PARTY**  
THROWN BY A HOLLYWOOD AGENT,  
**NO COCAINE WAS SNOTED**  
BY ANY OF THE 74 GUESTS PRESENT!



**BILL COSBY**

TURNED DOWN A SIX-FIGURE  
**TV COMMERCIAL ENDORSEMENT  
CONTRACT**  
ON THE GROUNDS THAT HE WOULD BE  
**OVER EXPOSED!**



**Billy Martin**, WHEN BAITED BY AN AGGRESSIVE  
DRUNK, LISTENED POLITELY FOR 20 MINUTES, THEN  
**MOVED TO THE OTHER END OF THE BAR!**

A NEW YORK CITY  
**SUBWAY  
TRAIN...**



...UNMARKED BY ANY **GRAFITTI** AND WITH ALL DOORS WORKING AND ITS  
AIR CONDITIONING OPERATING PERFECTLY MADE AN **ON TIME RUN** FROM THE BRONX TO BROOKLYN!

TEN YEAR OLD  
**Irving Queef**

of Lima, Ohio  
HAS NO DESIRE  
WHATSOEVER  
TO POSSESS  
ANY ITEM OF MERCHANDISE  
CONNECTED WITH  
**"STAR WARS,"  
"STAR TREK" OR "E.T."**





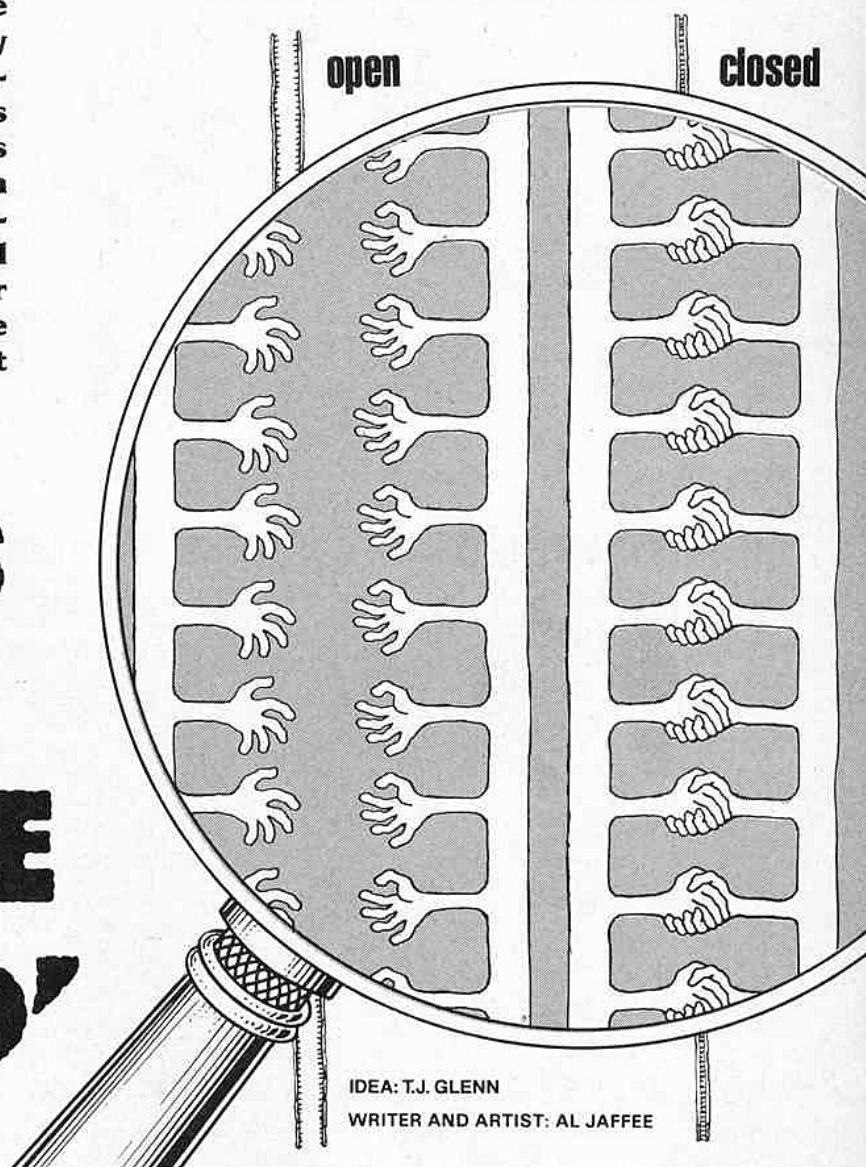
**FASTEN FURIOUS DEPT.**

Miracle "VELCRO" comes in large sheets and can be cut to any size. It consists of two different kinds of surfaces, and when the two are brought together, millions of tiny grippers grab onto millions of other grippers and hold on tight. This simple but effective fastener works better than buttons or zippers on clothing, which is where most "Velcro" is used. But we at MAD feel that there are many other uses for this amazing product. And so...the inventive geniuses at MAD present



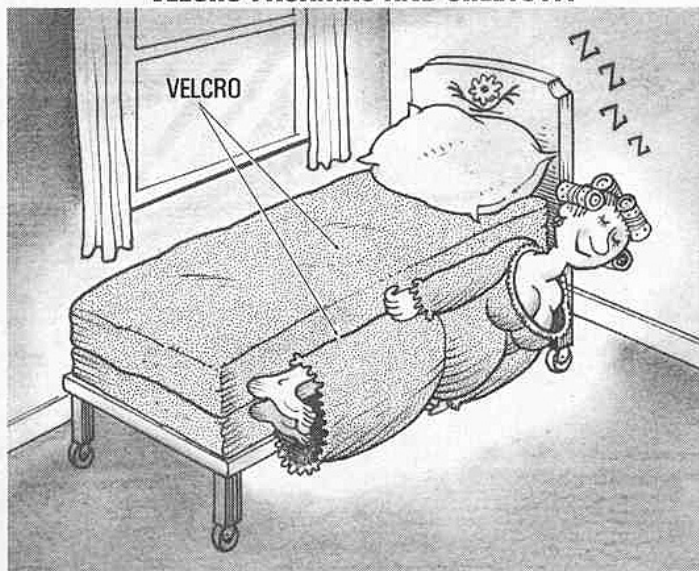
# EXCITING NEW USES FOR MIRACLE 'VELCRO'

## MAGNIFIED SECTION OF MIRACLE VELCRO, SHOWING HOW IT WORKS



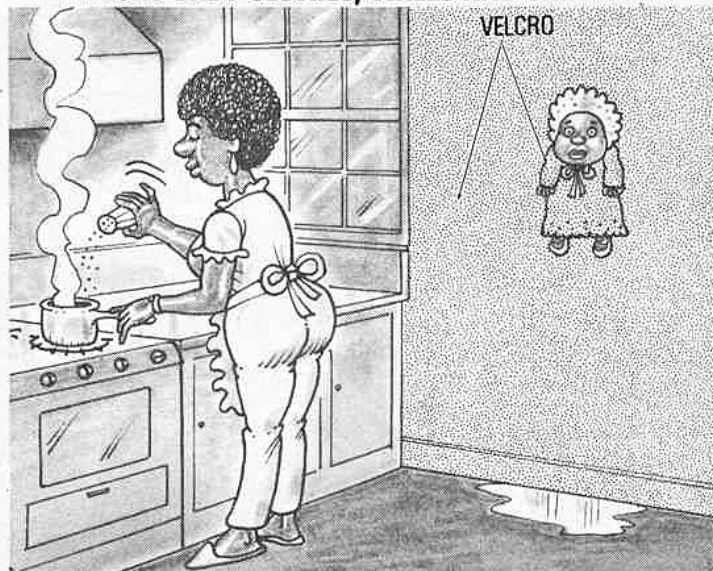
IDEA: T.J. GLENN  
WRITER AND ARTIST: AL JAFFEE

### VELCRO PAJAMAS AND SHEETS...



...prevent sleepwalking and falling out of narrow beds.

### VELCRO BABY CLOTHES, WALLS AND CARPETS...



...so kids can be safely parked, and kept out of danger.



### VELCRO TANKS AND TOILET SEATS...



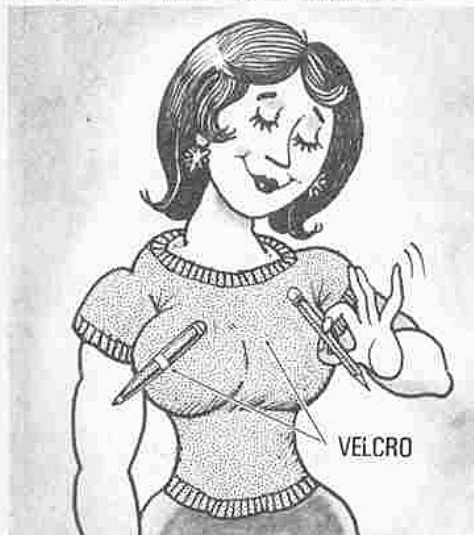
...stay up, eliminate the embarrassment of having the seats fall when men are using toilets in the usual way.

### VELCRO GARBAGE CAN BOTTOMS AND STANDS...



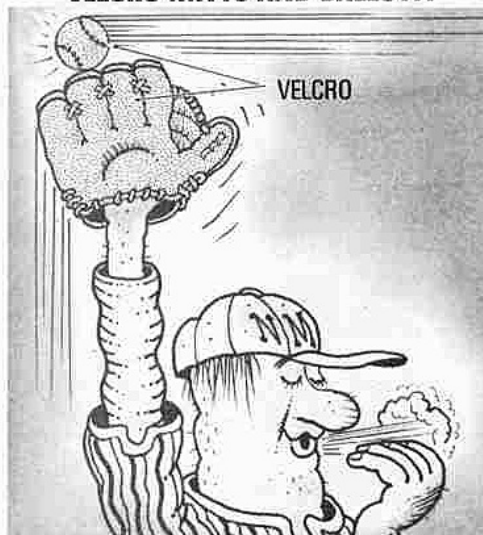
Cans cannot be pushed over, even by strongest of dogs. Also "Velcro Garbage Cans And Lids" keep cans closed.

### VELCRO PENS AND SHIRTS...



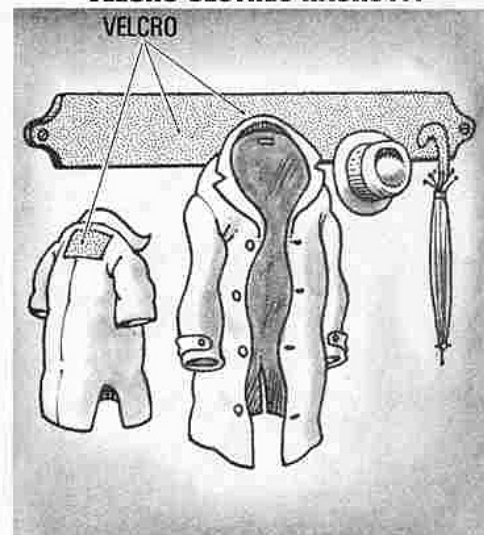
...eliminate need for pockets. Pens are always handy... and hard to lose.

### VELCRO MITTS AND BALLS...



Cuts down on errors. Even the most inept glove work results in a sure catch.

### VELCRO CLOTHES RACKS...



...do away with unsightly pegs and hooks, and danger of poking out eyes.

### VELCRO GUITARS AND CONCERT SHIRTS...



...leaves both hands free and eliminates bothersome strap.

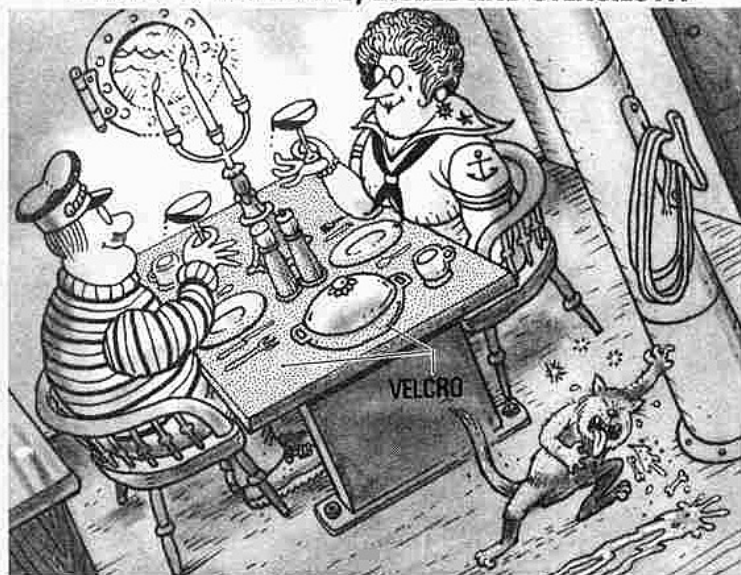
### VELCRO BATHROOM WALLS AND ACCESSORIES...



... for quick and convenient use and orderly storage.



## VELCRO DINING TABLES, DISHES AND UTENSILS ...



...on boats, prevents things from flying all over in storms.

## VELCRO BACKPACKS AND HIKING SHIRTS ...



...eliminate need for uncomfortable, chafing shoulder straps. Packs go on and off in a jiffy.

## VELCRO XMAS TREES AND ORNAMENTS ...



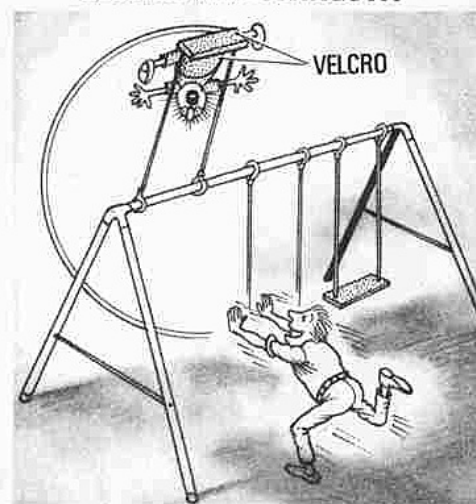
No need for dangerous ladders. Just toss up ornaments...and they stick.

## VELCRO SUPERMARKET BAGS AND SHOPPING CLOTHES ...



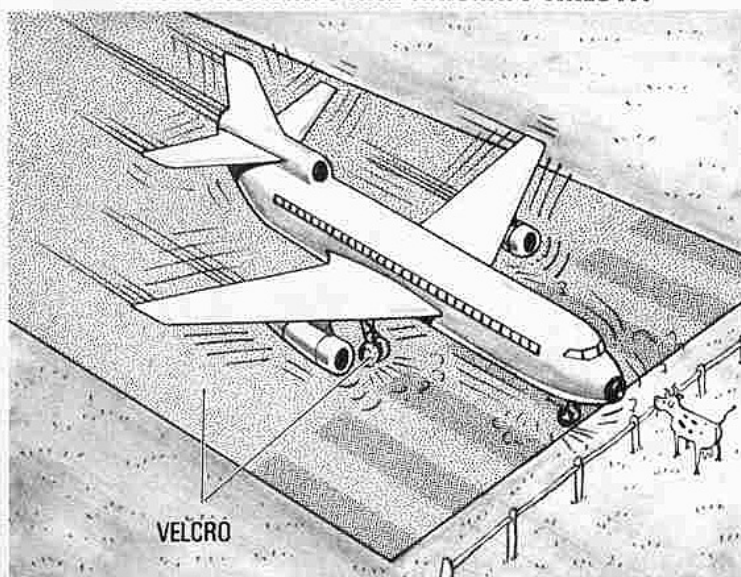
Makes bag-carrying easy. Leaves hands free to rummage for car and door keys.

## VELCRO CHILDREN'S PLAY CLOTHES AND SWINGS ...



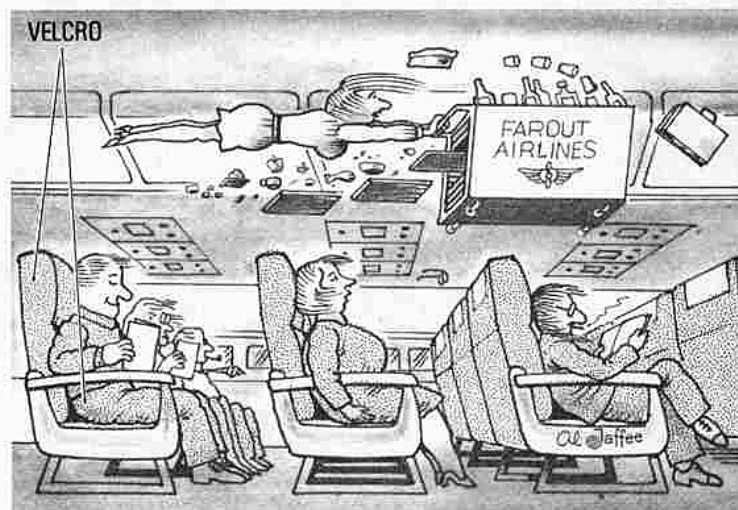
No matter how high swing goes, child sticks securely to the swing's seat.

## VELCRO RUNWAYS AND AIRCRAFT TIRES ...



...end ever-present danger of running out of landing room.

## VELCRO AIRPLANE SEATS AND TRAVEL CLOTHES ...



...eliminate need for safety belts. Also, necessary on airplanes landing on Velcro Runways so passengers don't end up rocketing forward at 100 miles per hour. 41



They made "Superman," "Superman II" and "Superman III" ... but they didn't have the nerve to make "Superman IV"! Instead, they pulled a sneaky trick and gave us pretty much the same old stuff using a "Female of Steel"! And that's what we consider...

What are you doing, Saltaire?

Using this incredible force, the Omegahedfone, to create "trees"! At least, I THINK they're trees! They've got them on every street in every city on Earth...!

One day, I hope to go to Earth and visit my cousin, Superman! I know that 230 million people live there, but maybe I'll accidentally run into him and his girlfriend, Lois Lane, and their friend, Clark Kent, and...

Please, Kara! Let's take these unbelievable coincidences one at a time! How much can a body stand?!

Gee, I sure hope they're careful with that Omegahedfone! It's our planet's sole source of power! Sort of a baseball-size Three Mile Island!

If Saltaire should accidentally let that Omegahedfone go, it would shatter this planet's Alpha Shield, and suck all the life out of our world!

So... what's the big deal?? Life here ALREADY sucks!!



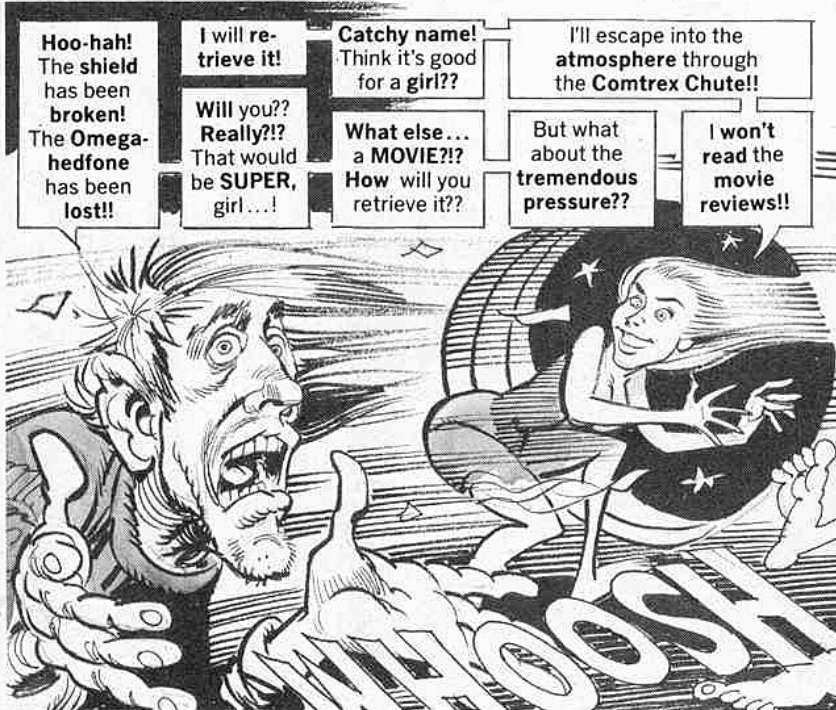




# Supergail

ARTIST: JACK DAVIS

WRITER: DICK DE BARTOLO



Hoo-hah!  
The shield  
has been  
broken!  
The Omega-  
hedfone  
has been  
lost!!

I will re-  
trieve it!  
  
Will you??  
Really!?!  
That would  
be SUPER,  
girl...!

Catchy name!  
Think it's good  
for a girl??  
  
What else...  
a MOVIE?!?  
How will you  
retrieve it??

I'll escape into the  
atmosphere through  
the Comtrex Chute!!  
  
But what  
about the  
tremendous  
pressure??

I won't  
read the  
movie  
reviews!!



I can FLY!!  
And I have  
incredible  
strength!!

I know...!!  
I'll USE my  
gifts to help  
Mankind!!

Hey! Do your "help Mankind"  
shtick on some OTHER plan-  
et, Sweetheart! You CAUSED  
twelve disasters ALREADY!!



Can I get you any-  
thing, Someany...?

You must be crazy!!

Yeah! I'll have  
a sandwich, a  
Coke and COM-  
PLETE CONTROL  
OF THE WORLD!

I guess you're  
right! Okay, I'll  
have a sandwich,  
a DIET COKE and  
complete control  
of the world!!



Such a pretty world!!  
I can't wait till it's  
all mine! I want the  
entire population at  
my feet, crawling on  
its hands and knees!  
I want to be the one  
who decides who lives  
...and who dies!!

Gee, Someany!  
No wonder you  
were voted  
"Most Likely  
To Succeed"!

And YOU...  
Dear-Nojel,  
will help me!

You must  
be nuts!  
I'd have  
to be un-  
conscious  
before I'd  
lift a  
finger to  
help you!!



Gee... I don't  
even believe  
in GOD... and  
I get help  
from above...!

Make a...  
list of...  
what you...  
want me t-t-  
...doooooo





Binaca!! At last I get my wish to rule the world! And THIS... is what will do it! This sphere has all of the power and force of the entire universe inside it!!

Gee... you really have the world by the ball!!



Where am I...?

Lovers Lane!!

Really...? Is she any relation to Lois Lane?

Wow!! She's not only pretty... she's got smarts!

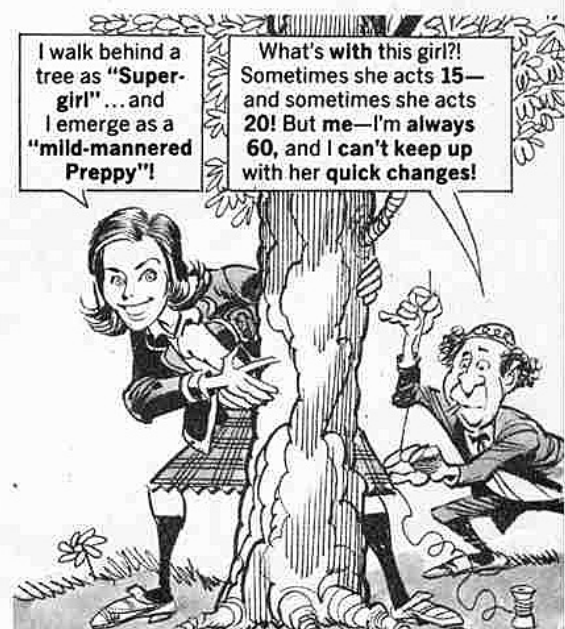


I've come here to look for the Omegahedfone! Just holding it can fill you with energy and a zest for living!

Oh, yeah? Hop in our truck! I think we can give you something like that

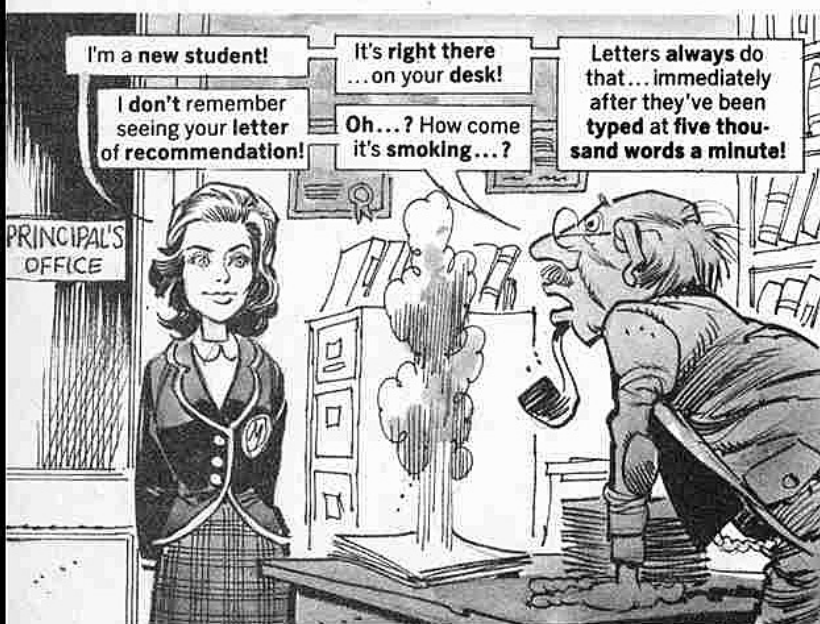


I was hoping for "Wham, bam, thank you, Ma'am!" But this is turning out to be "Slap, wack, no thanks, Jack!"



I walk behind a tree as "Super-girl"... and I emerge as a "mild-mannered Preppy"!

What's with this girl?! Sometimes she acts 15—and sometimes she acts 20! But me—I'm always 60, and I can't keep up with her quick changes!



I'm a new student!

I don't remember seeing your letter of recommendation!

It's right there... on your desk!

Oh...? How come it's smoking...?

Letters always do that... immediately after they've been typed at five thousand words a minute!



Hmm! I see you did very well in "Math"! You're the first student I've heard of who got 8000%!

Welcome to our Lady Of Perpetual Coincidences! You'll be the roommate of Lucy Lane... Lois Lane's younger sister!

Wow!! Looks like this school sure lives up to its NAME!





Linda Lee—this is Lucy Lane!

Wow! That's Superman, isn't it??

He's my sister's **BOYFRIEND!!** And I'm on my way to meet this guy from **Metropolis!** His name is **Jimmy Wholesome...** and he works for the "**Daily Planet!**"

Really?? I can't believe all this!!

I can!! I'm majoring in "**Advanced Plot Contrivances!**"

You know that **Handsome gardener** we saw today, Binaca? I'm, preparing a **potion** that will make me **attractive** to him!!

If you're expecting that handsome young gardener to **cultivate a relationship** with a **withered old flower** like **YOU**, you'd better **triple the formula!**

C'mon in! Have a beer!

This is a new brand, isn't it? "**Witch's Lite**"?!

I called you here for your advice! I'd like to have some **plants** to complement the **decor!**

I think a few **Venus fly traps**, an arrangement of **dead weeds** and some **poison ivy** would set the place off nicely!!

I'm feeling... **sleepy!** I—I can't... keep my eyes... open! I'm... **falling fast... asleep!** What... what am I **suffering from...??**

I don't know, but it's sure **catching!!** Look at the **audience** out there...!!

Look! The **gardener** woke up **drugged...** and now he's **roaming** through the **traffic** downtown!!

I'm making this **whole scene** appear on our wall by using my new **MAGIC POWERS!**

See if you can use your new magic powers to make "**Ghostbusters**" appear on our wall!! Then we'll have some **REAL** entertainment!

There's no one in that **bulldozer...** and it's **moving!!**

Obviously, it's **not** owned by a company with a **Union Shop...** or there'd be **SIX MEN** running it!



I smell trouble! I ALSO smell the sickening odor of tires burning! I hope I don't "super-barf" on those poor people below!

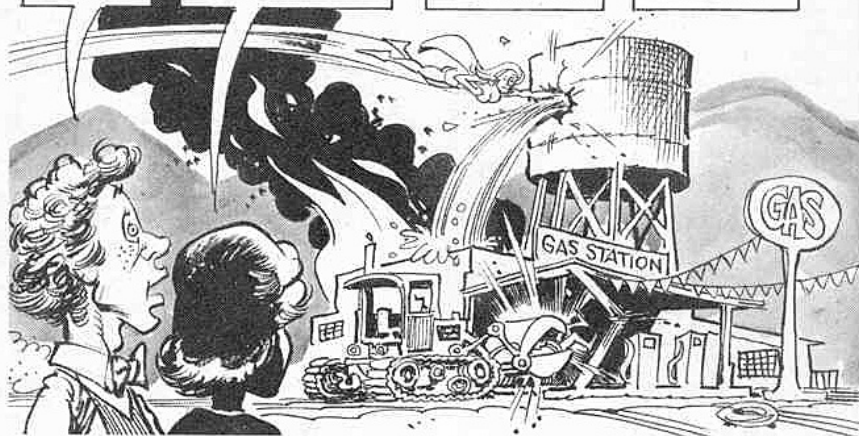
Lucy Lane told me that wearing a BRA would streamline my figure—but I think it ADDS to my wind resistance!!

Look!! The runaway bulldozer has set that gas station on fire!!

But Supergirl has smashed open that water tank, and it's putting out the fire! That's unbelievable!!

That Supergirl could do that?!! No, that a water tank would be on the roof of a gas station!

What do you think they use to turn SUPER Unleaded into REGULAR Unleaded...?! Seltzer?!!



I love you with all my heart and soul!! Come away with me and bear my children!!

Boy, Earth is sure some "make-out" place! I've only been here 48 hours, and already I've been propositioned by two mean truck drivers and a drunken gardener!!

So she thinks she can take my man away from me, eh? Well... I'm going to send her a storm with dark clouds and intermittent lightning, plus patches of fog, hail, and occasional high gusts of cyclonic winds!

Is that a SPELL—or a WEATHER FORECAST?

You've been keeping a low profile, Nojel! Have you grown tired of spreading evil and fear among men...?

Not at all, Someany, my dear! As a matter of fact, my most frightening act of terror is about to be unleashed! I have just completed drawing up the new IRS 1040 Income Tax form for 1985! Yecccc!!

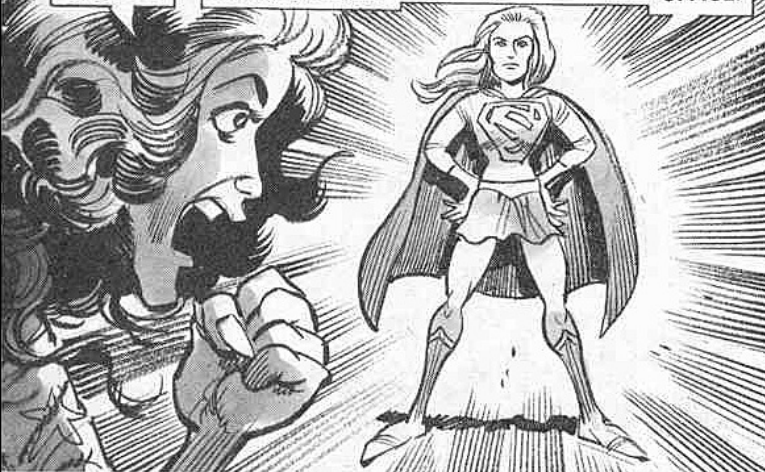


I am the Princess of Darkness! Who are you??

I am the daughter of Zor-Elbo... and the cousin of Superman...!

Superman...?! Can YOU do everything that Superman does??

Yes... except at the BOX OFFICE!



Your "super-tongue" bores me!

You talk of super powers?! I'LL show you super powers!!

See that mole hill out there? Watch...!

Upon all good, I put a hex... And call upon special effects!!







I made that mole hill into this mountain!!

Have you ever seen so much made out of so little?!!

Sure! Ask the guys who were responsible for this picture!!

Boy... talk about getting around your Zoning Laws!

You are now a victim of the "two-dimensional trap" ...!!

To match your personality!!

I banish you to the dark side of the universe! And furthermore, DON'T have a nice day!

Wow, Someany! Now, you're getting especially tough!!

Where am I...?

Saltaire...!! What a coincidence...! Two trillion miles of wasteland, and we meet!!

You, my dear, are lost in the Phantom Zone!

I forgot to mention that this Phantom Zone is on the planet of Serendipity!!

Is there a way out of this place...?

Sure! On this planet, all you have to do is click your Ruby Red Slippers together... and in a jiffy, you'll wind up in the next panel!

Click my Ruby Red Slippers together!

Yes... and then, just follow the Yellow Brick Road!

So you're back...! I send a fire ball shower at you...!!

And I send a meteor blitz at you!

And I send a storm of flying rocks at you...!

I'D like to send a dozen ROSES to Supergirl... but I don't think they'd stand a chance in hell of arriving undamaged in THIS place!

Goodness won...!!

Yes... and logic lost!

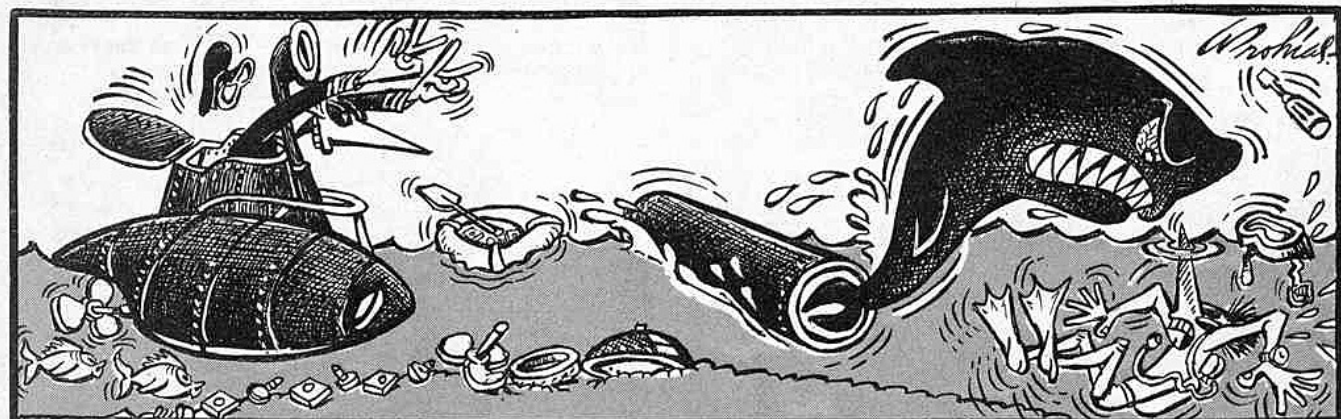
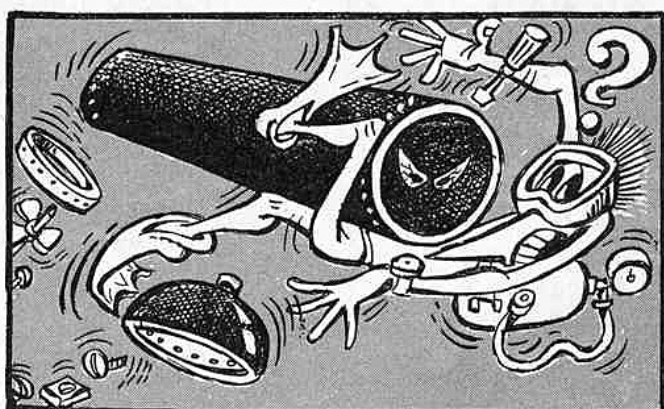
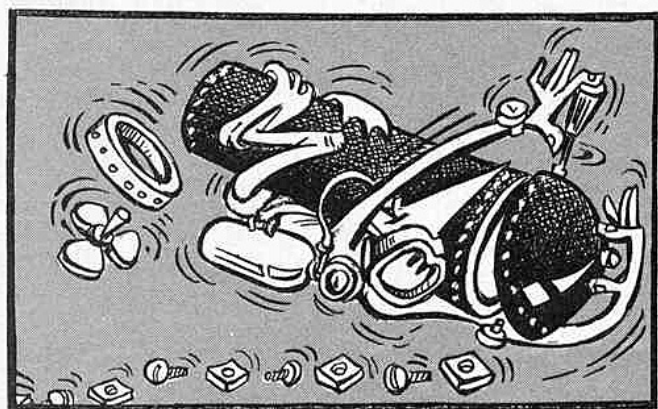
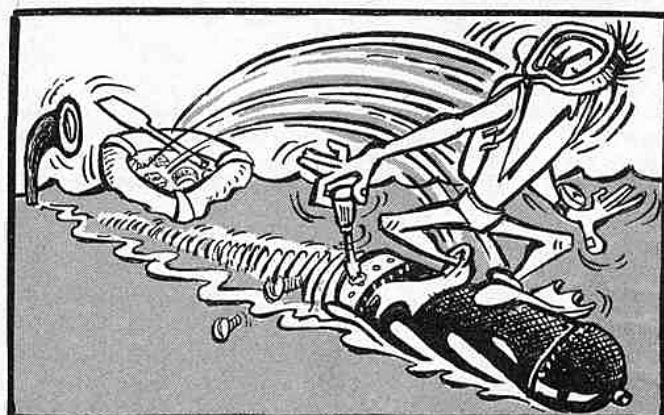
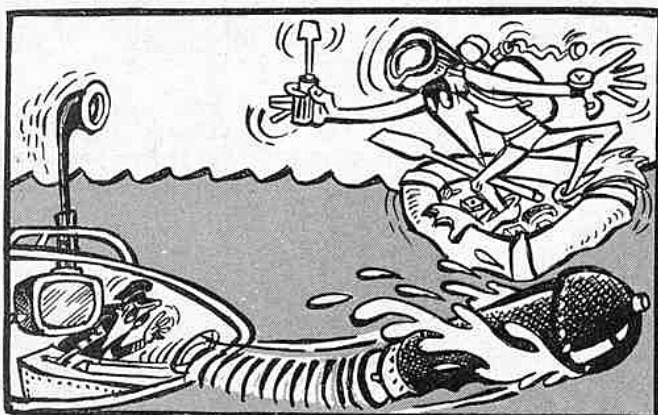
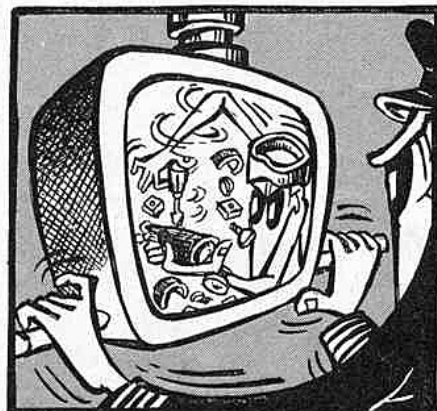
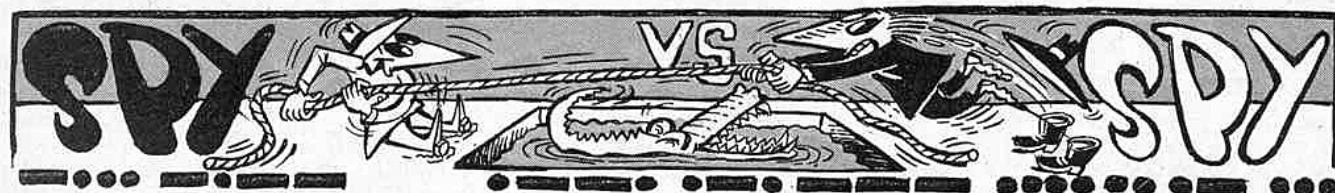
And our one wild date has resulted in a CHILD! Do you know which one it is?

Yes, and it's a super baby!

Oh, please...! Be quiet!! You might give them an idea for another movie!!

MATERNITY WARD







WHAT NEW LABOR  
DEVELOPMENT  
GAVE THIS WORKER  
MUCH MORE TIME  
TO SPEND WITH  
HIS FAMILY?

## HERE WE GO WITH ANOTHER RIDICULOUS **MAD FOLD-IN**

Working conditions in our great nation are constantly changing, sometimes for the better... sometimes for the worse. To see how the latest changes are affecting workers everywhere, fold in page as shown at right.

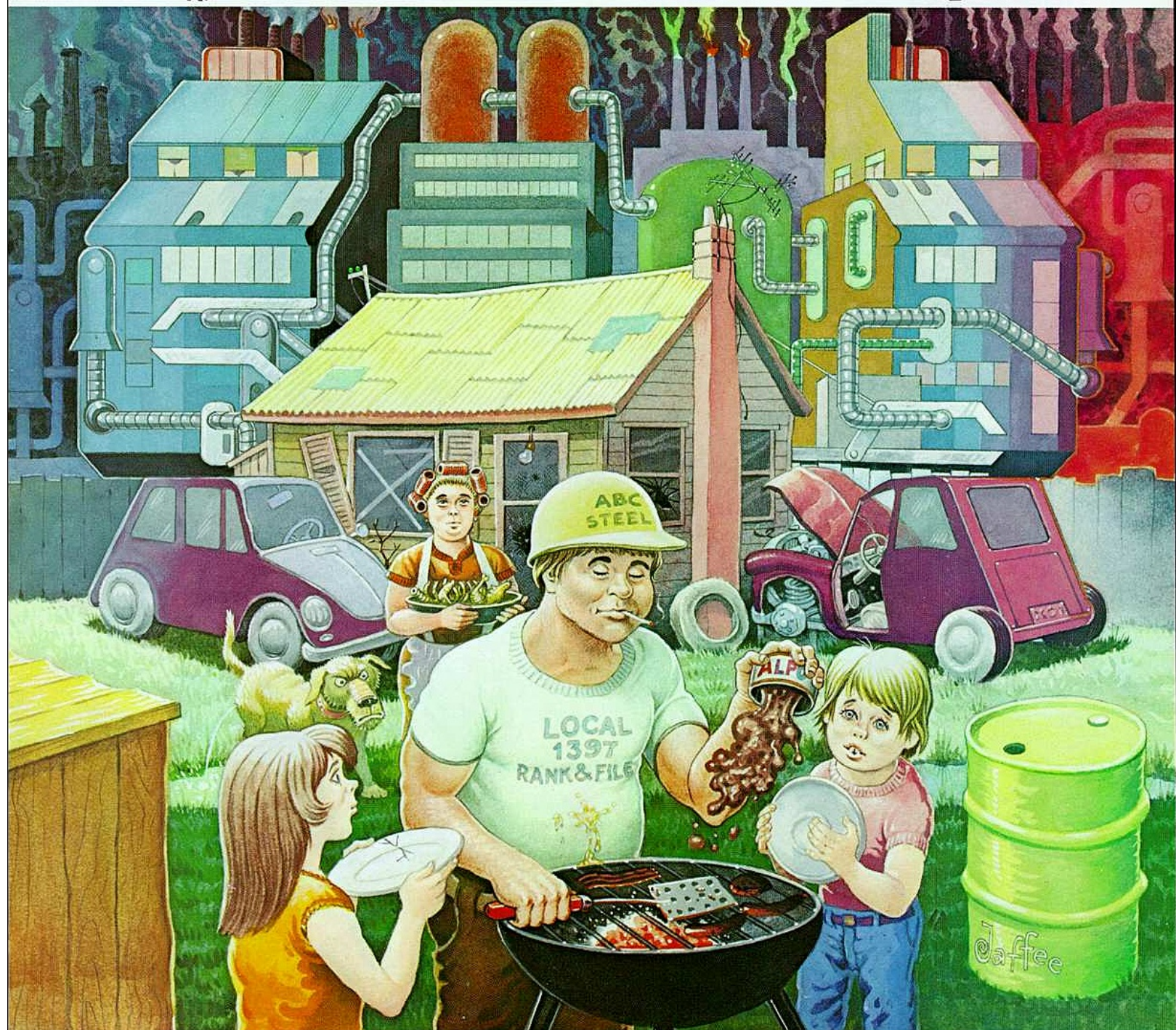


FOLD PAGE OVER LIKE THIS!

A▶

FOLD THIS SECTION OVER LEFT

◀B FOLD SO "A" MEETS "B"



A ROBUST ECONOMY USUALLY GIVES OUR LABORERS A LOT  
TO CHEER ABOUT. BUT WHEN WE TAKE A CLOSER LOOK  
AT HOW U.S. INDUSTRY WORKS, WE SEE THAT THIS  
JOLLY SITUATION CAN ALSO MAKE LIFE A BIT DRAB

A▶

◀B



